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FEDERAL BUREAU

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of

INVESTIGATION

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100-HQ-142323-1



100-
HQ-142323
Serials 1-123

Sec. 1

SECTION 1
SERIALS 1-123

Date:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

To: Brigadier General Hayes A. Kroner
General Staff
Chief, Military Intelligence Service
War Department
Washington, D. C.

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: LEON NELSON

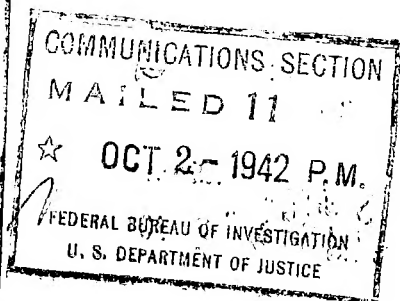
Information has been received reflecting that the above named subject is presently in the United States Army.

Nelson prior to his induction was reportedly the leader and organizer of the Young Communist League in Akron, Ohio.

For your information in connection with this individual there is being transmitted herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent William M. Kelly, dated September 11, 1942, at Cleveland, Ohio, in the case entitled, "Jeanne Nelson, alias Jeanne Bliss, Internal Security - C," who is the wife of the above mentioned subject. This report contains considerable information regarding both Leon Nelson and his wife.

Enclosure

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | ..... |
| Mr. E. A. Tamm | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg | ..... |
| Mr. Glavin | ..... |
| Mr. Ladd | ..... |
| Mr. Nichols | ..... |
| Mr. Rosen | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy | ..... |
| Mr. Carson | ..... |
| Mr. Coffey | ..... |
| Mr. Hendon | ..... |
| Mr. McGuire | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn Tamm | ..... |
| Mr. Nease | ..... |
| Miss Gandy | ..... |



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

OCT 3 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 6, 1946

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The report of Special Agent JOSEPH C. WALSH, JR., dated May 27, 1946, at New York, New York, in the case entitled, "JEANNE BLISS NELSON, with aliases; SECURITY MATTER - C", Bureau file 100-142323, reflects that as of May 15, 1946, her husband, LEON NELSON, the above captioned subject, was residing with her in Apartment E-5, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

It will be recalled that LEON NELSON, prior to his induction into the Army in April, 1942, was organizer for the Young Communist League in Akron, Ohio. NELSON later served as a Captain in the Army.

The DAILY WORKER for October 10, 1946, reflected that LEON NELSON was scheduled to speak in connection with the 1946 elections at the 6th Assembly District section of the Brooklyn Communist Party, 601 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, on the evening of October 15, 1946.

On October 21, 1946, Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that LEON NELSON appears to be affiliated at the present time with the Fort Greene Section of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

Since Cleveland was the office of origin in this case prior to the subject's induction into the Army, that office is requested to forward to the New York Field Division all pertinent serials and a photograph, if available. Investigation will be conducted in the New York Field Division to definitely ascertain subject's present activities and employment so that a Security Index Card can be prepared.

RSG:TFC/em
100-63755

cc: Cleveland (100-13633)

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-142323-30
36 NOV 7 1946

Hand Smith

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

NY FILE NO.

100-63755 CTG

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 6/3/47 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/1, 10/5/4, 8, 15, 19, 21/47 | REPORT MADE BY JAMES J. HAYES |
| TITLE LEON NELSON, wa. Leon Bliss | | | CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject is Section Organizer, WILLIAMSBURG SECTION C.P., 190 Tompkins Ave., Bklyn., NY. He was born 11/5/15, Bklyn. NY; resides apartment E-5, 1985 East 15th St., Bklyn.; employed as WILLIAMSBURG SECTION C.P. Organizer, Bklyn., NY. In U.S. Army 4/24/42 to 10/12/45. Joined YCL 9/34 and C.P. year later according to the Daily Worker. Enrolled for C.P. in 1935 primaries. C.P. candidate for New York Assembly 1938 and 1940. Active as SEASIDE (Bklyn) Division Chairman of the YCL in 1940. Subject and wife distributed Daily Worker in home in 1939 and 1940. He was an invited guest at the Special National Convention, C. P. on 11/16, 17/40. Attended National Committee C. P. Plenary Session 6/28, 29/41 at NYC. He was YCL Organizer, Akron, Ohio in 1942. In 1946 he was on a Veterans' Committee for the election of ROBERT THOMPSON and BENJAMIN J. DAVIS. Daily Worker lists him as speaker at Kings County C. P. Rally 10/15/46. At another Communist Rally 10/17/46, he was introduced as Williamsburg Section Organizer. NYPD, Confidential Informants and credit negative.

-C-

REFERENCE:

Letter to Bureau 11/6/46

DETAILS:

This investigation is predicated upon information obtained by Special Agent RICHARD J. GALLAGHER on October 17, 1946. He attended an open-air rally in Brooklyn, New York, at which several Communist Party members spoke, including subject, LEON NELSON, who was introduced as the WILLIAMSBURG SECTION Organizer of the Communist Party. Further detail concerning this rally is set forth later in this report. It also should be noted here that subject's wife JEANNE BLISS NELSON

| | |
|--|--|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward Scheidt</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - New York | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> SE 17 RECORDED & INDEXED </div> |

COPIES DESTROYED

NY 100-63755

is a member of the Communist Party. In 1944 she was Executive Secretary of the Avenue U Club, Communist Party, Brooklyn, New York, and in 1942 she took her husband's place as organizer of the Young Communist League in Akron, Ohio.

BACKGROUND

Local Draft Board number 145, 1716 Vornees Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, records reflect subject's address upon leaving the Army, as 1985 East 15th Street, Bklyn New York, Apartment E-5. This address was verified by pretext inquiry.

The draft board gave no employment for subject at present. Confidential Informant [] advised that subject obtained a telephone, NI 5-1682 on April 28, 1946. At this time he gave his employment as the RINGS COMPANY, telephone TR 5-7484. This number is the telephone number of both PETER V. CACCHIONE and the Kings County Communist Party, of 26 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York. Confidential Informant [] the 1946 and 1947 Brooklyn telephone books, and the records of the Kings County, County Clerk's Office on fictitious names and corporations were checked concerning the RINGS COMPANY with negative results.

A pretext inquiry at TR 5-7484 reflected that they had never heard of the RINGS COMPANY. The woman on the telephone advised that LEON NELSON is at this office, which is the Kings County Communist Party every morning, and that the rest of the day he is at the WILLIAMSBURG SECTION Headquarters, telephone EV 4-7183. This telephone number is that of the 6th A. D. Section of the Communist Party, 190 Tompkins Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. From the above, it is evident that the subject is a full-time employee of the Communist Party as Section Organizer of the WILLIAMSBURG Section, Brooklyn, New York.

According to the records of the Board of Health, Manhattan, New York, subject was born on November 5, 1915 at 119 Division Street, New York City. Listed as his parents are HARRY NELSON born in Russia, age 35, and occupation "paper boxes", and his mother, YETTA PRACT, born in Russia, age 34. The Daily Worker of November 3, 1940, in connection with subject's candidacy for the New York State Assembly, ran a picture with a brief background sketch. It stated as follows: "Born November 5, 1915 on the east side of Manhattan. He has lived in the Assembly District in which he is a candidate for the past 19 years. He graduated from Public School 225, New York, and attended ABRAHAM LINCOLN Highschool. He joined the Young Communist League in September 1934, and a year later he joined the Communist Party. He is active in trade unions. He is a member of the Dental Technicians' Union, which he joined in 1934."

The New York City Marriage Records under number 5703 Brooklyn, New York, reflected that subject married JEANNE BLISS on April 16, 1938 at Brooklyn, New York. The witnesses were SEYMOUR WOLFORT and FANNY BLISOVSKY. The marriage record listed subject's occupation as rubber worker. JEANNE BLISS was 21 years, born in Toledo, Ohio of MAX and FANNY BLISS, both of whom were born in Russia. Subject's wife resided at 3091 Brighton 3rd Street, Brooklyn, New York, at the time.

In connection with the investigation of subject's wife JEANNE NELSON, Local Board 145, Brooklyn, New York, was checked concerning subject. On March 24, 1941, he and his wife resided at 2738 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York. He gave a later address as 198 West State Street, Akron, Ohio, care of SIGMUND AGNOW. The file reflected that on April 24, 1942, NELSON had volunteered for the United States Army, and was inducted from Local Board 7, Akron, Ohio. A later check of the subject's draft board reflected that he was discharged on October 12, 1945 from Fort Dix, New Jersey. The following occupations of subject were obtained from his draft board:

Dental Technician, 1930 to 1937
Shoe Sprayer, 1938 to 1940
Metal and Wood Lather 1940 to 1941

In connection with the latter, he said he was a member of the Metal Lather's Union, located on Jamaica Avenue, near 145th Street, Queens, New York. A pretext inquiry at this union, which is located at 110-180 Jamaica Avenue, Richmond Hill, New York, reflected that subject has not been a member of the union since before the war. Further background information was obtained from subject's draft board which is being set out under his description at the end of this report.

ACTIVITIES

As already noted above the November 3, 1940 issue of the Daily Worker carried some background information concerning subject. In this write-up the Worker advised subject joined the Young Communist League in September 1934, and a year later he joined the Communist Party. He was also active in trade unions.

Confidential Informant T-1 provided a list of the names and addresses of those who enrolled in the Communist Party in the 1936 primaries. Listed is LEON NELSON of 3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

The Daily Worker of August 1, 1938 on page 3, lists subject as the Communist Party candidate for the New York State Assembly, 2nd District, Kings County, New York.

Special Agent WILMER L. THOMPSON examined the Communist Party election petition filed at the Board of Elections, 400 Broome Street, New York City. They reflected that subject again was a candidate from the 2nd Assembly District, Kings County, for the New York State Assembly. His address was 3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn. The number of signatures obtained for him were "2081". The New York Times of November 3, 1940, and the Daily Worker of November 2, and 3, 1940 also carried subject as being a candidate for the New York State Assembly. It might be noted here that the Daily Worker issue of November 3rd, carried subject's picture.

Special Squad of the New York City Police Department, was checked concerning subject. They gave the following information as was set out in the reports of Policewoman ESTHER GOLDBERG, who is now in the Juvenile Aid Bureau of the New York Police Department. She is not being contacted for further information inasmuch as her identity was obtained by the Communist Party and she has had no contact with the Communist Party since 1940.

She reported on June 26, 1940 that she attended an anti-war rally at the Brighton Center, 3200 Coney Island Avenue, conducted by the SEASIDE DIVISION of the Young Communist League. LEON NELSON, Division Chairman of the SEASIDE DIVISION, spoke at this rally.

She reported on July 11, 1940 she was told by MOE BINN, Veteran of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE, that LEON NELSON had called a meeting of some 12 members of the Young Communist League to be held July 12, 1940, at MAC's home, 3031 Brighton 14th Street. BEA FOGELBAUM told her that this was an attempt on NELSON's part to bring the "slackers" into line.

GOLDBERG reported on July 18, 1940 she attended a mass memorial meeting to honor the boys who died in Spain at Brighton Center 3200 Coney Island Avenue, under the auspices of the Communist Party, 2nd Assembly District. Approximately 300 people were there. LEON NELSON called on the ushers to distribute recruiting cards.

She reported on August 21, 1940 she attended the ESPLANADE BRANCH meeting at 3200 Coney Island Avenue, along with approximately 25 members. LEON NELSON spoke on "The Last World War And Its Significance".

On August 3, 1940 LEON NELSON was to speak at an open-air YCL meeting at 3200 Coney Island Avenue. However, the meeting was called off. NELSON supplied the 10 members of the Young Communist League present at the place where the meeting was to be held, with contribution petitions to send delegates to the Chicago Congress, on Labor Day weekend, and directed these members to stand on the corners to have them signed.

She reported that on August 6, 1940 there was to be a YCL meeting at 3200 Coney Island Avenue. The meeting was called in order that large groups of members would converge at Times Square to form a line around the theater district protesting conscription. When GOLDBERG asked why she had not been informed of the true nature of the meeting, she was told that LEON NELSON was the only one who knew, but others had surmised. The reason that members had not been informed was to prevent the possibility of the Police learning it. The meeting was called off because of rain.

She reported attending an Industrial Conference, sponsored by the SEASIDE DIVISION YCL, held at the IWO Center, 3200 Coney Island Avenue, on August 8, 1940. LEON NELSON addressed the group of about 35 present.

On August 15, 1940 BEA FOGELBAUM told her that LEON NELSON had told her that BEN and LILLIAN LOUIS, 3076 Coney Island Avenue, had been dropped from the NEPTUNE BRANCH as they were to do mass work. Miss GOLDBERG reported on August 17, 1940 that she reported to 3036 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, Progressive Committee, AMERICAN LABOR PARTY, where LEON NELSON supplied her with peace petitions issued by the New York Youth Congress. On August 18, 1940 she reported to 3036 Coney Island Avenue where LEON NELSON again supplied her with peace petitions and sent her out with CHUCK, a Sheepshead Bay member who lives in Bensonhurst, 19th Avenue and 75th Street.

On August 24, 1940 she attended a group captains' meeting, South Brooklyn County, 3200 Coney Island Avenue, at 2 p.m. It was attended by approximately 300 persons. After the meeting LEON NELSON met with members of the SEASIDE DIVISION to plan an open-air meeting for that evening. It was agreed that LEON NELSON would speak against conscription. She got to the meeting at approximately 8:50 p.m., and LEON NELSON was then speaking before a small audience.

On August 28, 1940 she reported at Young Communist League County Office, 276 Fulton Street, where she was interviewed concerning the county training school. She was greeted by LEON NELSON and introduced by him to a SYLVIA, who conducted the interview.

On August 30, 1940 she learned that ESTHER WLAER succeeded LEON NELSON as Division Chairman of the Seaside Division. She was unable to learn why he was relieved of this activity, but believed it might be to enable him to conduct a campaign for his election as an Assemblyman. On August 31, 1940 she attended an open-air meeting jointly by the Communist Party and the Young Communist League. She did not report the location of the meeting, which was in protest of conscription. LEON NELSON spoke at this meeting.

Miss GOLDBERG reported that on September 11, 1940, ESTHER KLAER was elected to succeed LEON NELSON as chairman of the SEASIDE DIVISION. She knew NELSON was engaged in doing county work, the nature of which she did not know. Then on September 12, 1940 she learned that LEON NELSON who resided at 3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, had taken over the position of County Administrative Organization Secretary.

Confidential Informant T-2 provided an organizational set-up list of the Young Communist League. Listed as a delegate to special convention of the YCL called by the National Board in December 1940, is LEON NELSON, Division Chairman, SEASIDE DIVISION, Brooklyn, New York. Mrs. WAKEFIELD, 3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, advised in September 1942 that subject and his wife while residing at this same address, distributed the Daily Worker throughout the apartment. It should be noted subject and his wife lived at this address for a number of years up to July 1940. Mrs. WAKEFIELD further advised that the subject and his wife attended meetings once or twice a week during the early part of 1940, at the corner of Coney Island Avenue, and Brighton Beach Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. Mrs. WAKEFIELD stated these meetings appeared to her as being sponsored by either a "Communist organization or some labor group".

FRANK RAUFF, Manager of apartment house at 2738 East 19th Street Brooklyn, New York, advised that subject had resided there for approximately a year, leaving in July 1941. Subject had hired the apartment in the name of LEON BLISS, and received some mail under that name. It should be noted here that the New York indices were checked concerning LEON BLISS with negative results. RAUFF went on to state that subject had told him he had obtained a good position in a rubber plant in Akron, Ohio, and was leaving for that city. RAUFF stated that subject and his wife placed numerous copies of the Daily Worker in the trash that was disposed of at their residence.

In connection with the investigation of subject's wife, Miss FRIEDA STERN, Bookkeeper at the METRO LATHING COMPANY, 3578 White Plains Road, Bronx, New York, advised her records reflected that subject was employed by her concern on 7 different occasions during 1940. She had no further information concerning him.

The Bureau in letter of October 21, 1941, advised that a list of the invited guests to the Special National Convention of the Communist Party on November 16, and 17, 1940, was confidentially obtained. On the list was LEON NELSON of the Communist Party, Brooklyn. Confidential Informant T-3 in a report dated July 3, 1941, concerning the National Committee Plenary Session of the Communist Party, USA, held on Saturday and Sunday, June 28, and 29, 1941, at New York City, listed LEON NELSON of Brooklyn as among those present. Informant advised that it was at this meeting that

delegate after delegate arose and berated HITLER as a war-monger, whereas a few days earlier they said the same things about CHURCHILL, ROOSEVELT, etc. They had decided that the Communist Party must use all its strength to go into the war and help Russia, and the convention issued a manifesto, "The Peoples' Program of Struggle for the Defeat of Hitler and Hitlerism".

A highly confidential source made available, the 1941 mailing list of the New York Conference for Inalienable Rights; listed was LEON NELSON, 3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. Confidential Informant T-4 made available a quantity of Communist material in October 1944. This material was prepared by a member of the Young Communist League, and listed among the members in 1942 was a LEON NELSON, 343 West 64th Street, New York City.

On June 12, 1943, DORIS ROCHE, address unknown furnished the New York Office with an address book found on 52nd Street and 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. The owner, from its contents, appeared to be a member of the YCL as well as a subscription solicitor for "Weekly Review". Among the names and addresses were LEON NELSON, 261st Medical Amphibian, B.N. CO., APO 700, New York City.

Mrs. O. G. (RUTH) RAYBURN, 86 West Crosier Avenue, Akron, Ohio, advised in August 1942, that on or about November 15, 1941, LEON and JEANNE NELSON came to her house to reside as roomers. She stated that during the course of the time she had come to the conclusion that LEON NELSON was an organizer and member of the Young Communist League in the city of Akron. She based this statement on the fact that when LEON NELSON went into the United States Army during May 1942, his wife, JEANNE NELSON, began to be very friendly with Mrs. RAYBURN. JEANNE NELSON stated that she was taking over her husband's work as an organizer in the Young Communist League, and that she would carry on in his stead. Informant advised that subject was employed as a Dental Technician, working for an unknown negro dentist, who maintained an office in either the Ohio Building or the Central National Building, in downtown Akron. During this period the subject and his wife often had a number of visitors, many of whom were negroes. Mrs. NELSON, during the course of these visits, did a great amount of stenography work, taking dictation, and later transcribing it on a typewriter. Mrs. RAYBURN stated that in addition to numerous pamphlets published by the Communist Party, there were numerous volumes of works on Russia and Communism maintained by Mrs. NELSON in her room. Titles and their authors are set out in the investigation concerning subject's wife, therefore, they are not being repeated here.

Mrs. RAYBURN at this time also provided a photograph of LEON NELSON in his soldier's uniform, standing with his wife and an unknown soldier. Subject is holding his wife's arm in the picture. This picture is now in instant New York case file.

A strictly confidential source advised the Cleveland Office on November 1, 1943 that records maintained in the residence of JEANNE BLISS NELSON at 102 North Adams Street, Akron, Ohio, indicated that her husband, LEON NELSON, was a member of the Young Communist League, now known as the American Youth for Democracy.

Subject's name appeared on the Communist Party petition circular in Stark County, Ohio, a copy of which was furnished to the Cleveland Office on November 8, 1943.

A mail cover on ~~FAY~~ CALLER, also known as Mrs. ~~CARL~~ VEDRO, in July 1944, reflected 3 letters from LEON NELSON, 7th Station Hospital, APO 700, New York. She was National Education Director of the Young Communist League, and a member of the National Council at that time. She is now on the New York State Committee of the Communist Party.

The Daily Worker for October 26, 1946, carried an article to the effect that 20 combat veterans of World War II, formed a Veterans' Committee for the election of ROBERT THOMPSON and BENJAMIN DAVIS, Communist candidates for Comptroller and Attorney General. The formation of the committee was announced by IRVING COFF, and its members included LEON NELSON. There were 19 members, most of whom are very well known, and prominent Communists.

The Daily Worker of October 11, 1946, carries an advertisement of the Kings County Committee Communist Party, 26 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York. It announced speeches to be made in connection with the 1946 elections. The announcement said "Hear members of the National and State Committees on this subject at the Regional Committee Party Membership Meeting in Brooklyn, on Tuesday, October 15th, at 8 p.m. sharp." Under speakers for the meeting to be held by the WILLIAMSBURG and 6th A. D. Sections, Communist Party, are ~~HAL~~ SIMON and LEON NELSON. The meeting was to be at REGINA MANSION, 601 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn.

Special Agent RICHARD J. GALLAGHER attended an open-air rally on October 17, 1946, in Brooklyn, New York. Agent Gallagher reported on this rally as follows:

"On October 17, 1946, the writer attended an open-air rally held at the corner of Havermeyer and South Third Streets in Brooklyn, New York. This rally commenced at 7:00 p.m. with the playing of records. These records included speeches by BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Communist candidate for Attorney General

of the State of New York on foreign policy, on the Jewish people and on the Negro people. There were also records of speeches by BOB THOMPSON, Communist Party candidate for Comptroller of the State of New York on the OPA and on labor unions.

At approximately 7:30 p.m., an unidentified individual introduced the first speaker of the evening as PHIL SCHLIMER, phonetic, a member of the Williamsburg Section of the Communist Party. SCHLIMER spoke on the meat situation and placed the blame of the shortage on the head of one individual, namely, THOMAS E. DEWEY, Republican candidate for the Governor of New York.

At the conclusion of SCHLIMER's speech, IRVING GOFF, State Veterans' Director of the Communist Party was introduced and he talked on the atom bomb and foreign policy of the United States.

The third speaker was LEON NELSON who was introduced as the Williamsburg Section Organizer of the Communist Party. NELSON spoke on local conditions. All speakers urged their members to vote "Communist and then labor", to vote for BEN DAVIS and BOB THOMPSON first and then for progressive candidates endorsed by labor.

The meeting lasted a little over two hours and was attended by a crowd that fluctuated between 25 and 35 people. It was noted that four girls of high school age were passing out circulars entitled, "Speak Up For Peace, Byrnes Must Go!", "How About the Murdered Jews Senator Taft", and "Why No Meat". They also passed out announcements that a "Defeat Dewey Rally" would be held at the Imperial Palace Ballroom, 790 Broadway, Brooklyn, on October 29, 1946 at 8:00 p.m.

Speakers at this rally were listed as Honorable BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., New York City Councilman, candidate for Attorney General; Honorable PETER V. CACCHIONE, New York City Councilman, and JOHN WILLIAMSON, Labor Secretary, Communist Party. The announcement also related that the famous movie, "Deadline for Action" would be shown. This rally was under the auspices of the Williamsburg Section, Communist Party.

The aforementioned circulars were all distributed by the New York State Committee of the Communist Party. It was also noted that the girls were also selling copies of the Daily Worker.

The entire meeting was of a strictly political nature and the main theme was "Vote Communist, Vote Labor."

NY 100-63755

The amplifiers were mounted on the top of an automobile bearing license plate number 7K7857. Inquiry at the Motor Vehicle Bureau reflected that this plate was issued to JOHN RIESENACKER, 60-74 Fresh Pond Parkway, Brooklyn. The indices were checked for the name of JOHN RIESENACKER with negative results."

On October 21, 1946, Confidential Informant T-5 advised, on October 21, 1946 that LEON NELSON appears to be affiliated at the present time with the FORT GREENE Section of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

It should be noted here that information concerning subject's being full-time organizer of the WILLIAMSBURG Section is set out in this report above under the heading "Background".

Special Employee R. E. BULLOCK checked the Brooklyn Board of Elections concerning subject. He registered for the 1940 and 1941 elections from 3076 Coney Island Avenue, leaving his party affiliation blank. He again registered from 1996 East 16th Street, in 1945. He was affiliated with the American Labor Party. In 1946 he registered from 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, also with the American Labor Party.

NEGATIVE INVESTIGATION

[redacted] has no record of subject. The following confidential informants were contacted with negative results: [redacted]

The New York City Police records were checked for any criminal record concerning the subject with negative results.

A check of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, was also negative.

It might be noted here that the Cleveland Office by letter of March 20, 1947 advised that they have no further information concerning subject, other than set out in this report.

DESCRIPTION

The following description of subject was obtained from the records of Local Board 145 Brooklyn, and by investigation:

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Name | LEON NELSON, wa. Leon Bliss |
| Age | 31 |
| Born | November 5, 1915, New York City |
| Marital status | Married |
| Wife | Mrs. JEANNE NELSON |
| Race | White |
| Weight | 175 lbs. |
| Height | 5'10" |
| Eyes | Hazel |

NY 100-63755

Hair
Complexion
Relatives

Brown
Light

Father, ~~HARRY NELSON~~; mother, YETTA NELSON; brothers, ~~SAM NELSON~~; IRVING NELSON; ~~JACK NELSON~~, aml of 1996
East 16th Street, Brooklyn

Employments

Dental Technician 1930 to 1937;
Shoe Sprayer 1938 to 1940; Metal
and Wood Lather, Metal Lathers'
Union AFL 6,110-18 Jamaica Ave.,
Richmond Hill, New York; Metro
Lathing Company, 3578 White Plains
Road, Bronx, N.Y.; Section Organizer,
Williamsburg Section, CP, 190 Tompkins
Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
U. S. Army, April 24, 1942 to October 12,
1945. ASN 35378771

Military Service

Addresses

3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
2738 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
198 West State Street, Akron, Ohio, care
of S. AGNOW
86 West Crosier Avenue, Akron, Ohio
102 North Adams Street, Akron, Ohio
1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn
1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, Apt. E-5

CRIMINAL RECORD

New York City Police Department negative. Photograph in instant file.
Inasmuch as subject's background and activities have been brought up to date, no
further investigation is being conducted at this time.

C L O S E D

-11-

NY 100-63755

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent JAMES J. HAYES, dated May , 1947 may be identified as follows:

T-1 JOHN BRANN, WPA, New York City

T-2 Mrs. MARGARET DISCO, Operator of the New York P.D. Sabotage Squad

T-3 Colonel WALTER L. FUBERSHAW, MID, 6th Corps Area, and of Carnegie Illinois Steel Company, who gave this report to the Chicago Office

T-4 Father HAROLD ENGEL, Director of the CYO in the Archdiocese of New York, 15 East 51st Street, New York City, who in turn had received this material from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Father ENGEL

turned over the material to Special Agent JOHN KEENAN.

T-5 [REDACTED]

C L O S E D



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
 234 U. S. Court House
 Foley Square
 New York 7, New York



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
 FILE NO. _____

June 3, 1947

Director, FBI

LEON NELSON, wa.
 RE: SECURITY MATTER-C

Dear Sir:

It is recommended that a Security Index card be prepared relative to the individual named below:

Name: **LEON NELSON**
 Aliases: **LEON BLISS**

Residence Address: **1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York,**
Apartment E-5

Business Address: **Williamsburg Section C. P. Headquarters,**
190 Tompkins Avenue, Brooklyn, New York

☒ Native Born _____ Alien _____ Naturalized
☒ Communist _____ German _____ Miscellaneous
 _____ Fascist (Italian) _____ Japanese _____

Date of Birth November 5, 1915
 Place of Birth Brooklyn, New York
 Entered U. S. _____ at _____
 Naturalized (date) _____
 Naturalized (place and Court) _____

RECORDED

EX-70

Very truly yours,

Edward Scheidt

EDWARD SCHEIDT
 SAC

63 JUN 23 1947

100-142323

June 14, 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Special Agent in Charge

New York

RE: SECURITY MATTER

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a security index card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

NELSON, LEON
Alias: Leon Bliss

NATIVE BORN

COMMUNIST

1985 East 15th Street
Apartment E-5
Brooklyn, New York (Res.)

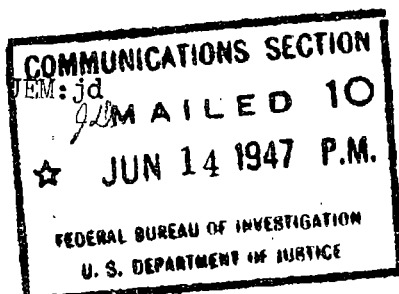
Williamsburg Section C. P. Headquarters
190 Tompkins Avenue
Brooklyn, New York (Bus.)

The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5" x 8" white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Security Index Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

The caption of the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director



Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

WILLIAMSBURG CP PLEDGES AID TO DENNIS

In a letter to William Z. Foster, chairman of the Defend Dennis Committee, the Williamsburg Section of the Communist Party pledged its aid in the defense of the general secretary of the Communist Party. The letter follows:

Dear Comrade Foster:

We of the Williamsburg Section of the Communist Party wish to be among the first to come out in support of the Defend Dennis Committee. We know that in defending Comrade Dennis we are defending the rights of every American to challenge the constitutionality of any committee of Congress, law or act passed by the Congress of the United States which is against the rights of the majority of the people; also any law or act which is contrary to the interests and rights of any democratic minority group in the United States.

We know that it is the House Committee on Un-American Activities and its friends and allies who would like to put its stamp of approval on all the ideas and acts of the American people. It calls subversive everybody and anybody who disagrees with our foreign policy (Truman-GOP doctrine) and our domestic (Taft-Hartley "slave law") policy. We know that this Un-American Committee would like to put into power the rule of the few over the many through its methods of subpoenas threats, loyalty purges, etc., which is aimed at the basic principles of free speech and assembly and the rights of all American citizens to petition Congress. It would set up a system of fascist thought-control in the United States.

We in the Williamsburg Section hereby pledge to do our utmost in defense of our basic rights as American citizens; to fight for the abolition of this un-American committee, the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and as this fight can be won first and foremost in the defense of Comrade Dennis who, as a leading American citizen, is leading the fight to preserve our Constitution and our basic rights, and the rights of our Communist Party, we pledge not only our fighting energy and support, but also \$25 to the Defend Dennis Committee.

Comradely yours,
LEON NELSON
Section Organizer for
Williamsburg Section,
Communist Party, U.S.A.

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

JUL 28 1947

This is a clipping from
Page 5 of the
DAILY WORKER

Date _____
Clipped at the Seat of
Government.

FIVE

50 AUG 6 1947

100-142323

January 18, 1949

SAC, New York

RE: LEOH NELSON, wa
SECURITY MATTER - C
Your File 100-63755

Dear Sir:

A review of the files at the Bureau in connection with this subject has revealed that a report has not been received from your office concerning the subject since the report of Special Agent James J. Hayes dated 8-3-47 at New York.

While it is realized that existing instructions do not require that a report be submitted periodically on Security Index card subjects unless the subject is also a top functionary, it is felt that in view of the tense international situation at the present time, a new report should be submitted setting forth the extent of the subject's present activities in connection with the Communist Party and related groups in order that the Bureau will be in possession of current information concerning each one of those subjects who are considered a threat to the internal security.

In submitting the report, the Bureau desires that you incorporate in summary form the information contained in your files not previously reported. Information of substantive nature only should be set forth and repetitious material should be avoided. Where a description of the subject has not been reported, that, too, should be included in the report and also placed on the reverse side of the Security Index card in accordance with the instructions outlined in SAC Letter No. 57, Series 1948, dated April 10, 1948.

In the event the subject's current address is not the same as that which appears on the Security Index card, you should correct the Security Index card and forward Form FD-119 to the Bureau in order that the Security Index card at the Bureau can be corrected.

In order that the Security Index will contain only the names of those individuals who can be considered to be a threat to the internal security of this country, the Bureau desires that you carefully appraise this case and if it appears that the subject, based on his present position and activities or past position and activities, cannot be considered such as threat, then in addition to submitting the report, you should recommend that the Security Index card be canceled.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

This matter should receive your immediate attention.

JAN 18 1949 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-63755 RM

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 6/2/50. | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/31;2/3;4/10; 5/1,2/50. | REPORT MADE BY SIDNEY E. HOWE |
| TITLE LEON NELSON, wa., Leon Bliss | | | CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject resides 1985 E. 15th Street, Brooklyn, NY and is employed as Chairman, Trade Union Commission, Kings County CP. Subject active in CP at county level among trade union groups, especially metal, baking, and transport. Subject unknown to regular Confidential Informants. Additional descriptive data set out.

- C -

DETAILS:

RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised the writer on April 10, 1950, that the subject resides in Apartment E-5, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised on March 29, 1950, and April 5, 1950, that the subject is Chairman of the Trade Union Commission of the Kings County Communist Party, and that he works out of the Kings County Communist Party Headquarters, which is located at 26 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York.

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITY

Confidential Informant T-2, previously mentioned, said that the subject is on the pay roll of the Communist Party on the county level and that at present he is occupied principally with trade union work, including Party organization among metal, bakers and transport sections of the Kings County Communist Party. This informant stated that the subject was formerly an

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|--------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edmund Scheidt</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ Bureau 3 New York 52 JUN 16 1950 | 100 - 100 | 36 |
| | RECORDED - 77 | |
| | INDEXED - 77 | |
| | | EX-81 |

COPIES DESTROYED

NY 100-63755

organizer of the Williamsburg Section of the Kings County Communist Party and a member of the Kings County Review Board of the Communist Party. This informant said that NELSON is active as a speaker and administrator of the Kings County Communist Party. In this connection, the informant noted that NELSON was used by the Communist Party during the election campaign of 1948 as a speaker and he further stated that the subject also acted as a discussion leader and speaker at the branch and section meetings of the Kings County Communist Party.

Confidential Informant T-2 said that he had heard that the subject's name was included on the committee to handle trade union work at the New York State Communist Party Convention in 1948, and the informant recalled that the subject's name had appeared on the ballot sheet of individuals from which delegates were to be selected to represent Kings County at the New York State Convention of the Communist Party in 1948.

This informant stated that he understood that the subject handled the report on trade unions at one of the panels of the 1948 Kings County Communist Party Convention. This informant stated that he had not observed the subject at either of the aforementioned conventions and was therefore not in a position to comment further regarding his activity in this connection.

Confidential Informant T-2 advised that LEON NELSON was ordered to appear, without fail, at a meeting of the National Organizational Department held at the National Headquarters of the Communist Party, U.S.A., 35 East 12th Street, New York City, on Thursday, November 17, 1949, at 7:00 p.m.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, said that the subject was, to his knowledge, a paid employee of the Kings County Communist Party, during the entire year of 1947 and the early part of the year of 1948.

Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, said that he was able to definitely state that the subject was a paid employee of the Kings County Communist Party during the later part of 1948.

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised that during March of 1950, the subject had a meeting with ~~JOSEPH STAROBIN~~, Foreign Editor of "The Worker", which is the Sunday edition of an East Coast Communist newspaper, the "Daily Worker". The informant also stated that the subject met with JOHN WILLIAMSON during the month of April, 1950, and he understood that the subject was interested in securing WILLIAMSON'S services as a speaker for a Sunday meeting which he, NELSON, had scheduled to be held sometime in April, 1950.

It is to be noted that ~~JOHN WILLIAMSON~~ is one of the national committeemen of the Communist Party, U.S.A.

Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised, on February 8, 1949, that the subject was a member of the staff of the Kings County Communist Party, and he was residing at 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York. Confidential Informant T-6 advised, on April 6, 1949, that the subject at that time was, among his other activities, the organizer of the baker section of the Kings County Communist Party.

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised on February 9, 1950, that LEON NELSON was assisting in arrangements for a truck load of food being sent to Masontown, Pennsylvania, where it would be distributed to striking members of the United Mine Workers of America. This informant advised that the subject was assisted in these arrangements by ~~BILL ALBERTSON~~, Organizational Secretary, District #5, Communist Party, U.S.A. It is noted, in this connection, that Confidential Informant T-5, previously mentioned, advised that he heard that ALBERTSON was scheduled to speak at a meeting which NELSON was arranging for a Sunday during April, 1950.

Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, advised, on December 23, 1946, that one LEON NELSON, who was born in 1915, was, during the latter part of the year of 1946, a member of Lodge #585 of the International Workers Order. It should be noted that the subject was born in New York City on November 5, 1915. It should be further noted that the International Workers Order has been declared by the Attorney General to fall within the purview of Executive Order number 9835.

The "Daily Worker", an East Coast Communist newspaper, issue of July 18, 1947, revealed a letter signed "Comradely yours, LEON NELSON, Section Organizer for Williamsburg Section, Communist Party, U.S.A.". The published open letter is addressed to ~~WILLIAM Z. FOSTER~~, "Chairman of 'Defend DENNIS Committee'", who is a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A. The letter contains statements pledging aid and support on the part of the Williamsburg Section of the Communist Party, U.S.A., to the defense of ~~EUGENE DENNIS~~, also a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A.

On April 10, 1947, EUGENE DENNIS defied a subpoena to appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. On April 22, 1947, the United States House of Representatives approved citations holding EUGENE DENNIS and ~~LEON JOSEPHSON~~ in conspiracy to commit contempt of Congress.

Presumably, the "Defend DENNIS Committee" was organized to support EUGENE DENNIS and aid him in obtaining relief from the contempt of Congress citation set out above.

The files of the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation, New York City Police Department, as reviewed by Special Agent ROBERT W. CARNES, reflect that the name LEON NELSON, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, appears on an independent Communist Party nominating petition, Page 1786, circulated on behalf of SIMON W. GERSON, Communist Party candidate for New York City Councilman in 1948. The record at the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation further reflects that LEON NELSON was a member of the Williamsburg Section of the Communist Party as of December 15, 1947. In this connection, the record shows that the subject was a speaker at a meeting held under the joint sponsorship of the Williamsburg Tenant and Consumer Council and the Williamsburg Fourteenth Assembly District Organization of the American Labor Party. The subject spoke on Sunday, March 16, 1947, at Public School #16 in Brooklyn, New York. It was further noted at the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation that LEON NELSON, Communist Party Section Organizer, was mentioned in a discussion at the New York State Convention of the Communist Party held at Webster Hall, 119 East 11th Street, New York City, on July 16-18, 1948.

With respect to the American Labor Party, mentioned above, the following appears in a report of the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, Second Session, dated May 29, 1946, at Washington, D.C:

"American Labor Party

"1. Support of the Communist Party to the above has been recognized by the appointment of a Communist to an official position in the City Government. (Massachusetts House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report 1948, Page 36)

"2. Cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, (March 29, 1944, Pages 49, 77f, 153, 189)"

The following Confidential Informants, of known reliability, and who are familiar in general with Communist activities in the New York area were contacted and advised that they had no knowledge of the subject: Confidential Informants T-9, T-10, T-11, T-12, T-13, and T-14.

NY 100-63755

DESCRIPTION

The following additional descriptive data pertaining to the subject was obtained from the files of the Veterans Administration, 37 Ryerson Street, Brooklyn, New York:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Name | LEON NELSON |
| Alias | Leon Bliss <i>Mrs Leon Nelson</i> |
| Address | 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York |
| Next of Kin | JEANNE NELSON, wife |
| Birth Data | Born: November 5, 1915 at Brooklyn, New York |
| Race | White |
| Relatives | Child: RONNY NELSON, born [REDACTED] |
| | Father: HARRY NELSON, age 67, as of December, 1945, Residing at 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York; |
| | Mother: YETTA NELSON, age 62, as of December, 1945, Residing at 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York; |
| | Brother: SAM NELSON, Residing at 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York; |
| | Brother: IRVING NELSON, Residing at 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York; |
| | Brother: JACK NELSON, Residing at 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York. |
| Employment | Chairman, Trade Union Commission, Kings County Communist Party, Brooklyn, New York. |
| Military Service | United States Army, April 24, 1942 to October 12, 1945. ASN35378771. |
| Height | 67 inches (shoeless). |
| Weight | 150 lbs. (stripped). |
| Posture | Fair. |
| Frame | Slight. |
| Hair | Black. |
| Eyes | Brown. |
| Complexion | Ruddy. |
| Social Security No. | 130-07-1339. |

- C L O S E D -

-5-

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Confidential Informant T-2 advised that written material has come to his attention addressed to or signed by "NELLIE", and also "NELLY". It is believed that the individual referred to by this name is the subject. In fact, the informant received information on March 3, 1949, that "NELLIE" was to attend a meeting of the Kings County Communist Party Committee to be held at 7:00 p.m. on March 25, 1949, at an undesignated place. The agenda of the meeting included a review of the Party work since the 1948 election campaign.

In verification of the foregoing information submitted by Confidential Informant T-7, as set out in this report, it is noted that Confidential Informant T-2 advised on March 29, 1950, that an individual identified only as "NELLY" requested an additional \$50.00 in his pay envelope for expenses incurred during the Miners Aid Week of February 11, 1950. The individual "NELLY" in question was a paid employee of the Kings County Communist Party.

In an article appearing in the "Daily Worker" issue of March 25, 1949, the name "LEO NELSON", not further identified, appears in a listing of "a delegation of fifteen Brooklyn Communists", who went to the United States Court House Building, Foley Square, New York City, to protest to Federal Judge HAROLD R. MEDINA'S, Southern District of New York, court ruling denying WILLIAM Z. FOSTER the right to testify in the trial of the twelve national committeemen of the Communist Party, U.S.A. by written deposition. It is believed that this "LEO NELSON" is identical with the subject.

Confidential Informant T-2 furnished an unsigned rough draft statement whereby it is revealed that "Comrade NELSON is guilty of an expression of national chauvinism" in a discussion before a group of foreign born workers. This information originally was reported to the Bureau by letter dated July 11, 1949, under the title "COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A., DISTRICT 2, KINGS COUNTY, INTERNAL SECURITY - C", (Bureau File 100-3-4).

Confidential Informant T-2 advised, on May 19, 1949, that the subject informed his "section organizers" by a mimeographed letter dated May 12, 1949, to read "March of Labor" and to become subscribers. Instant publication is a magazine published at the Newspaper Guild Building, 133 West 44th Street, New York City.

NY 100-63755

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent SIDNEY E. HOWE, dated June 5, 1950, at New York, New York, are as follows:

- T-1 Mrs. RODRIGUEZ, building superintendent, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, who was interviewed under pretext.
- T-2 [] contacted by SA JOHN E. KEARY.
- T-3 [] who made available a photostatic copy of the quarterly pay roll report filed by the Kings County Communist Party with the State of New York, Department of Labor, Provision of Placement and Unemployment Insurance for the period of January 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948.
- T-4 [] who furnished a similar pay roll report for the period of October 1, 1948 to December 31, 1948.
- T-5 []
- T-6 [] contacted by SA EVERETT K. DEANE.
- T-7 [] who furnished information to SA JOSEPH R. MARSZALEK of the Pittsburgh Office on February 9, 1950.
- T-8 [] contacted by SA EVERETT K. DEANE.
- T-9 [] who furnished information to SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.
- T-10 [] who furnished information to SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.
- T-11 [] who furnished information to SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.

NY 100-63755

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS con't

T-12 [] who furnished information to SA EDWARD W.
BUCKLEY.

T-13 [] who furnished information to SA EDWARD W.
BUCKLEY.

T-14 [] who furnished information to SA EDWARD W.
BUCKLEY.

REFERENCES: Bureau file 100-142323.
Report of SA JAMES J. HAYES, New York, 6/3/47.

Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 19, 1950

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, wa.
SECURITY MATTER - C
Bufile 100-142323

Standard 4 TD
6-26-50 RH

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

RACE _____ SEX _____ NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Chairman, Trades Union Commission, Kings County

Communist Party, 26 Court Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industries List)

SEH:mat

100-142323-55

52 AUG 11 1950

RECORDED-7

100-142323-37

RECEIVED

[Signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bufile 100-142323)

DATE: November 22, 1950

On October 3, 1950, Confidential Informant [] of known reliability, was interviewed by SA JOHN E. KEARY regarding the officers, organization and activities of the Kings County Communist Party.

The Informant stated that he knew this individual only by name as the Trade Union Director for the Kings County Communist Party. The Informant added that according to hearsay, NELSON was an up-and-coming member of the Party who had a favorable future ahead.

cc: []

JEK:ARV
100-63755

EX-68

RECEIVED
NOV 28 11 40 AM '50
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: August 14, 1952

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON
SECURITY MATTER -C

Card U.T.D.

8-27-52 *ape*

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

STATISTICAL SECTION
FBI

Aug 20 9 53 AM '52

STATISTICAL SECTION
AKEN

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Unknown

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

DEL:mat

RECORDED - 4

EX-99

100-142323-41

AUG 15 1952

153

te
all

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

IS GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-Dead)

SUBJECT: ~~NELSON~~, aka: LEON NELSON
~~NELLIE~~
 SM-C

DATE: October 15, 1952

BORN - 11/5/11
 AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Rebulet to Seattle, April 1, 1952 captioned "MIRIAM MANRIQUE aka; SM - C" (Bufile 100-355330). In her sworn statement to INS, Seattle, Mrs. MANRIQUE stated that a boy named NELSON who was called NELLIE had been a member of the Executive Board of a Branch of the Young Communist League at ABRAHAM LINCOLN High School, Brooklyn, NYC, during the late 1930's. Mrs. MANRIQUE was unable to furnish additional information concerning NELSON.

The NYO indices reflect several thousand references under captioned name, the review of which in an attempt to identify the subject would involve an unusual amount of file review activity. In view of this and the fact that there is no allegation of more recent Communist or related activity on the part of the subject, no further action will be taken in this matter at this time by New York UACB.

In accordance with instructions in Rebulet, a copy of this letter is designated for San Diego.

- 1 - Bufile 100-355330(MIRIAM MANRIQUE)
 1 - San Diego (100-7560)

GHL:DP

SE-36

RECORDED - 44

OCT 24 1952

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-355330

Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-3-99)
 FROM : SAC, [REDACTED]
 SUBJECT: CPUSA - Toplev
 IS-C
 LEON NELSON
 SM-C
 (Bufile 100-142323)

DATE:

12/30/52

CONFIDENTIAL

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Mr. Ladd | _____ |
| Mr. Nichols | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont | _____ |
| Mr. Clegg | _____ |
| Mr. Glavin | _____ |
| Mr. Harbo | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen | _____ |
| Mr. Tracy | _____ |
| Mr. Laughlin | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr | _____ |
| Mr. Winterrowd | _____ |
| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Mr. Holloman | _____ |
| Miss Gandy | _____ |

In connection with the Toplev Program in this office, the name LEON NELSON, a CP leader in the Kings County CP, has been selected as one to be approached in the near future.

BACKGROUNDDECLASSIFIED BY SP7C/CLY/EB
OK 12-19-97

(1) Subject LEON NELSON is a white man, who is reported to reside at 1985 E. 15 St., Brooklyn, NY, and was last known to be employed as chairman of the Trades Union Commission, Kings County CP, 26 Court St., Brooklyn, NY, in 1951. His present employment is unknown.

(2) Subject was born 11/5/15 in NYC. His father, HARRY NELSON, was born in Russia, and his mother, YETTA PRACK, was born in Russia. Subject married JEANNIE, nee BLISS, on 11/16/38, at Brooklyn, NY. His wife was born in Toledo, Ohio, the daughter of MAX and JEANNIE BLISS, both of whom were born in Russia. The subject had volunteered for the U.S. Army and was inducted from Local Board #7, Akron, Ohio, 4/24/42, and was discharged on 10/12/45 at Fort Dix, N.J.

EXPEDITE PROCESSING

(3) CP Background: The "Daily Worker" of 11/3/40, in connection with the subject's candidacy for the New York State Assembly, ran a picture with a brief background sketch of the subject, stating, "Subject was born 11/5/15 on the east side of Manhattan. He has lived in the assembly district, in which he is a candidate, for the past 19 years. He graduated from Public School 225, New York, and attended Abraham Lincoln High School. He joined the Young Communist League in September, 1934, and a year later he joined the Communist Party. He is active in trade unions, and he is a member of the Dental Technicians Union, which he joined in 1934."

The subject was a candidate on the CP ticket for the New York State Assembly in the Second District, Kings County, in 1938, according to the "Daily Worker" of 8/1/38.

1 - Asst. Director A. H. BELMONT
 1 - NY 100-63755

COPIES DESTROYED

EWB:MMS

RECORDED
INDEXED-37

DEC 31 1952

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-3-99

Letter to Bureau

Again in 1940, the subject was a CP candidate for the position of New York State Assemblyman.

In 1942, the subject was an organizer of the Young Communist League in Akron, Ohio.

In 1940, the subject was chairman of the Seaside Section of the CP Kings County, Brooklyn; and in September, 1940, the subject was given a position of County Administrative Organizer of the Kings County CP.

After the subject came out of the Army, he again became active in the CP in Kings County, and in 1947 he was listed as Section Organizer of the Williamsburg section of the Kings County CP. Since the subject came out of the Army in 1945, he has been considered a paid CP functionary of the Kings County CP.

The subject was a delegate from the Kings County CP to the New York State Convention of the CP in 1948. At this NYS convention, the subject was assigned to the committee to handle trade union work.

Subject has been appearing as a principal speaker for the past three years at various Kings County CP section meetings. Subject also appeared in the picket line of a group of delegates from the Kings County CP during the trial of the National Board of the CP leaders.

In 1949 and 1950, the subject was chairman of the Trade Union Commission of the Kings County CP. The subject during these years has been active in the CP at county level among the trade union groups, and he has been in close contact with such national CP leaders as JOHNNIE WILLIAMSON, SIMON W. GERSON, ROBERT THOMPSON, etc.

During 1951, informants have advised that the subject has been in contact with top CP leaders such as AL LANNON, SI GERSON, WILLIAM NORMAN, JACK PERRILA, etc. As late as 1951, the subject was on the payroll of the Kings County CP Executives, and for the first quarter of 1951 the subject received the amount of \$650.00, according to informants.

Subject is extremely friendly with many CP leaders of

Letter to Bureau

Kings County who are suspected of being presently engaged in the underground apparatus, such as CARL VEDRO, CHARLES LOMAN, NORMAN SCHRINK, and others.

(4) Subject's wife has been an extremely active CP leader on the section level. The file reflects that the subject's wife, JEANNIE BLISS NELSON, is a member of the CP. In 1944, she was Executive Secretary of the Avenue U Club, Brooklyn, NY, and in 1942 she took her husband's place as organizer of the Young Communist League in Akron, Ohio, at the time he entered the Army. The wife has appeared as a speaker at various section meetings at the Kings County CP and is known to the state and county leaders of the CP.

Because of the wife's loyalty and activity in the CP, numerous informants have advised that the subject's position has been advanced in the county leadership, meaning that the CP leaders are anxious to have a husband and wife team both active as leaders in the CP movement.

(5) No information is available on subject's relatives in the CP other than the wife.

(6) There is no indication in the file or from informant sources indicating that either the subject or his wife have defected or faced expulsion charges in the CP. On the contrary, both have been reported extremely active in the CP movement.

(7) The subject, if willing to cooperate, would be a valuable informant to this Bureau because of his loyalty in the past to the CP movement as he, no doubt, has received valuable information on CP activity which would be of assistance to this Bureau.

Because of the subject's complete attention to his position as a Kings County CP leader, he, no doubt, has security information concerning possible CP underground activity, as well as information concerning the possible whereabouts of the CP fugitives.

(8) Plan of Approach: It should be noted that the present employment of LEON NELSON is not known, but that information has been developed that the subject has been seen coming and going at times from his apartment at 1985 E. 15 Street, Brooklyn, NY.

It is contemplated that the subject will be approached

Letter to Bureau

as he departs from his apartment house en route to his unknown place of employment. The approach will be made to the subject directly on the street by Agents assigned to the Toplev Program, and every means of persuasion from a patriotic or financial standpoint will be made in an attempt to influence or win over NELSON as an informant.

Bureau permission is requested to directly approach the subject during the week of January 19, 1954, circumstances permitting.

3

January 5, 1953

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
TOPLEV
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

LEON NELSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

T

Advise Bureau results of contact, and if it is not possible to approach the subject within thirty days, the Bureau should be furnished the reason why the contact has not been made and when you anticipate conducting the interview. RE

DECLASSIFIED BY
ON 11/24/97

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

COMM — FBI
JAN 6 1953
MAILED 24

REC-11-10 21 11.20.11

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 Att: Asst. Dir. A. H. Belmont
 FROM : SAC, [redacted]
 SUBJECT: CPUSA-TOPLEV
 INTERNAL SECURITY -C
 LEON NELSON
 SECURITY MATTER -C 142.323

DATE: 1/19/53

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | _____ |
| Mr. Ladd | _____ |
| Mr. Nichols | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont | _____ |
| Mr. Clegg | _____ |
| Mr. Glavin | _____ |
| Mr. Harbo | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen | _____ |
| Mr. Tracy | _____ |
| Mr. Laughlin | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr | _____ |
| Mr. Winterrowd | _____ |
| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Mr. Holloman | _____ |
| Miss Gandy | _____ |

Re NY letter, 12/30/52, requesting Bureau authority to contact LEON NELSON, a top functionary of the Kings County C. P. in connection with the Toplev Program in this office, and bulet, 1/5/53, granting authority to contact the subject whenever feasible.

This is to advise the spot check surveillances at the residence of the subject, namely 1985 East 15 St., Brooklyn, N. Y., has failed to disclose the whereabouts of the subject since he is not residing at his reported address.

It should be noted that highly reliable Confidential Informants of this office advised that LEON NELSON was also heard from in conversation with other Kings County C. P. leaders in October, 1952.

A pretext telephone call to the home of LEON NELSON prior to Christmas, 1952 was made at which time subject's wife advised that she expected the subject home around the Christmas holidays.

An interview with WILLIAM RODRIGUEZ, superintendent at 1985 East 15 St., Brooklyn, who had been alerted to report the presence of the subject, advised that he has not observed the subject residing or visiting his apartment for over 3 months. RODRIGUEZ said that subject's wife and 2 children continue to reside in the apartment but that NELSON has not been observed around the building for some time.

RODRIGUEZ stated that he was on the lookout during the Christmas holidays to see if he observed NELSON visit his wife and family but that he did not observe him entering or leaving the building. He also stated that on several visits to the subject's apartment where he had to do repair jobs, brief conversations with the subject's wife disclosed that LEON NELSON was reported to be out of town on a business trip.

RECORDED-52

20 JAN 21 1953

1 - 100-63755

EWB:FC

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Letter to Director, FBI

Since it appears that LEON NELSON is also missing and probably active in the Brooklyn C. P. underground movement, he is not being considered for Toplev contact at this time unless his whereabouts are ascertained. When this information is established, the Bureau will be notified and authorization will be requested for a contact with the subject under the Toplev Program.

- 2 -

SAC, New York (100-63755)

January 27, 1953

Director, FBI (100-3-99)(100-142323)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~100-142323-44
COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

TOPLEV

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

LEON NELSON

SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurlet January 19, 1953.

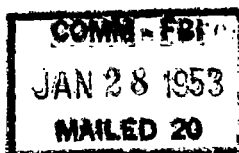
Since the subject's whereabouts is unknown, the authorized contact with him cannot be made in the near future.

In view of the fact that the subject cannot be interviewed at the present time under this Program, his case should be removed from Toplev consideration.

The case should be reassigned and if the subject's whereabouts is determined, consideration should be immediately given to an interview with him under the Toplev Program and the Bureau should be advised prior to such interview, setting forth the contemplated plan of approach which must be made in accordance with the Bureau's instructions relating to interviews with Toplev subjects.

JDD:DE

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____



62 FEB 4 1953

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-3-99-1

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL

5/8/53.

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

51 JUN 3 1953

FILE NUMBER

100-142323-47

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

Office Memorandum

• UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: June 1, 1953

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

"UNAVAILABLE SECTION"

Card U.T.D.
6-24-53 are

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) ☒ MISSING

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

UNKNOWN

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List)

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____ UNKNOWN

JJK:mat

100-142323-48

JUN 22 1953

JUN 22 1953

Office Memorandum

2 • UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: JUN 1 1953

Subject has been identified by [] and [] as Bronx County CP Organizer. He has formerly been Trade Union Director, Kings County CP. He was first reported as missing from his residence, 1985 East 15 Street, Brooklyn, New York in June, 1952.

Subsequent investigation indicated that NELSON has in fact been living away from his family since the later part of 1951.

In February, 1953, [] identified a photograph of subject as a person known to him as "JOE" who had been acting as Bronx CP Organizer since the middle of 1952. Both NY [] and [] have stated that subject is operating in the CP Underground.

In an effort to locate subject, contacts were made with individuals living at subject's last known residences. Subject's wife has been interviewed under the Toplev program. A surveillance of a Bronx County Section Organizer Meeting has been conducted as well as surveillance of contacts of subject in the Bronx. Trespasses have been requested on subject's wife and a probable contact.

Mail covers have been placed on his wife. To date they have failed to locate subject.

Investigation is continuing to locate the subject.

Encl. (1)

JJK:RMK

JUN 18 1953

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. PMC/ATM

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|---|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 5/15/53 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/28-30; 5/1, 4-6/53 | REPORT MADE BY JOHN J. KEARNEY |
| TITLE CHANGED LEON NELSON, was: Leon Bliss, "Joe", Nellie | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SUMMARY REPORT

SYNOPSIS:

Subject born 11/5/15, NYC. Veteran of World War II. Joined the YCL in 1934 and a year later joined the CP. Functionary of YCL until 1942, when he joined the U.S. Army. After Army subject was leading CP functionary in Brooklyn, N.Y., holding position of Trade Union Director from 1949 to 1951. Presently operating in CP underground as Bronx County CP Organizer. Residence unknown.

- P -

DETAILS:

The title of this case has been marked changed to reflect the additional alias "JOE", the name by which the subject is known in the Communist Party (CP) underground, as set out hereinafter.

The name NELLIE is also added to this title according to information received from Confidential Informant T-12.

I BACKGROUNDA-Birth Data

On April 18, 1953 SE GERARD M. LENAHAN checked the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Manhattan,

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPY IN FILE | | SE 46 | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT | | RECORDED-INDEXED | |
| 1 - Bureau (100-142323) <u>RM</u> | | | |
| 2 - Cleveland <u>RM</u> | | | |
| COPIES DESTROYED | | | |
| 3 - New York (100-64755) | | | |

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New York, under number 57360, which reflected the birth of LEON NELSON as November 5, 1915 in Manhattan. His father is shown as HARRY B. NELSON, age 35, occupation "paper boxes," Russia born in Russia. His mother is shown as YETTA PROCT, age 34, born in Russia. At the time of LEON NELSON'S birth his parents' residence was shown as 119 Division Street, Manhattan.

B- Marital Status

On April 14, 1953 SE LENAHAAN reviewed the marriage records at the County Clerk's Office, Brooklyn, New York, under number 5703. This record reflects that LEON NELSON and JEANNE BLISS were married in Brooklyn on April 16, 1938. The marriage license was issued on April 11, 1938.

The following descriptive data was listed on these records:

| | |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| Name | LEON NELSON (white) |
| Residence | 3076 Coney Island Avenue |
| Age | 22 |
| Born | Manhattan |
| Employment | Rubber worker |
| Marriage | First |
| Father | HARRY B. NELSON (born in Russia) |
| Mother | YETTA PROECT (Born in Russia) |

| | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Name | JEANNE BLISS (white) |
| Residence | 3091 Brighton Third Street |
| Age | 21 |
| Born | Toledo, Ohio |
| Occupation | Secretary |
| Marriage | First |
| Father | MAX BLISS (born in Russia) |
| Mother | FANNY RUBINOFF (born in Russia) |

The witnesses to this marriage were listed as SEYMOUR WOULFERT and FANNY BLISOVSKY.

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C- Education

The "Daily Worker," an east coast Communist newspaper, in its issue of November 3, 1940, reflects that LEON NELSON attended the following schools: Public School 225 and the Abraham Lincoln High School.

The records of Confidential Informant T-1, another governmental agency reflect that the subject gave the following educational background: Eight years elementary school; four years high school; one year Brooklyn Evening School and one year Seth Low Junior College.

D- Employment
(Other Than CP)

The records of Confidential Informant T-1 reflect the following employment record for the subject:

1930-1937

Employed as dental technician.

1938-1940

Sprayer (spraying rubber on leather for shoes).

1940

Miss FRIEDA STERN, bookkeeper for Metro Lathing Company, 3578 White Plains Road, Bronx, New York, advised that her records reflect the subject was employed by this concern on seven different occasions during 1940.

The records of Confidential Informant T-1 reflect that as of October 16, 1940 the subject advised he was employed by a trade union located at Jamaica Avenue, near 146th Street, Queens, New York.

1941

On April 27, 1941 the subject advised Confidential Informant T-1 that he was then unemployed. He stated he was a

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wood, wire and metal lather by trade, which work is highly seasonal. He advised that his last employment was with the Metro Lathing Company.

1941-1942

Mrs. RUTH RAYBURN, 86 West Crosier Avenue, Akron, Ohio, advised that the subject was employed in Akron from 1941 to 1942 as a dental technician.

1942-1945

During the above period it is to be reported that the subject was an enlisted man in the United States Army.

E- Selective Service

The records of Confidential Informant T-1 reflect that LEON NELSON, born November 5, 1915 in New York City, registered under the Selective Service Act of 1940, with Local Board 145, Brooklyn, New York. He was classified 3-A on April 9, 1941; re-classified 1-A on March 3, 1942 and re-classified 1-C on April 30, 1942. He was discharged October 25, 1945. He was inducted into the United States Army on April 30, 1942.

By an undated letter the subject advised that since moving from New York City to Akron (1942) his economic status had changed for the better. He said that therefore, he felt he should be placed in the classification 1-A.

On February 25, 1942 Mrs. JEANNE NELSON advised the Local Board that she grants her husband permission to join the air corps or any other branch of the military service. She said she was able to support herself.

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that the records further reflect the subject received an honorable discharge from the United States Army on October 12, 1945. The reason for his separation was listed as demobilization. His Army Serial Number was 35378771 and he had attained

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the rank of T/5, M.D. AUS. He was separated at the Tilton General Hospital, Fort Dix, New Jersey. His permanent residence was shown as 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

F- Residences

1915

As pointed out on the subject's birth data, NELSON was born in New York City in 1915 and his parents residence was given as 119 Division Street, Manhattan, New York.

1936-July, 1940

The records of the Board of Elections, Brooklyn, reflect that from 1936 to 1940 the subject registered to vote from 3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn.

July, 1940 - July 17, 1941

Mr. FRANK RAUFF, manager of the apartment house located at 2738 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, advised in 1942 that the subject and his wife resided at that address for one year, leaving on July 17, 1941. Mr. RAUFF advised that the subject had rented the apartment under the name of LEON BLISS.

July, 1941 - November, 1941

The records of Confidential Informant T-1 reflect that on September 2, 1941 the subject advised that his residence was 198 West State Street, Akron, Ohio, in care of SIGMUND ~~AGNEW~~.

November, 1941 - April 30, 1942

Mrs. RUTH RAYBURN advised that on about November 15, 1941 the subject and his wife came to reside at 86 West Crosier Avenue, Akron, Ohio.

April 30, 1942 - October 12, 1945

It is to be noted that during the above period the subject was in the United States Army.

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October 12, 1945 - October 25, 1945

The records of Confidential Informant T-1 reflect that upon discharge from the Army the subject gave the residence of 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn.

October 25, 1945 - 1950

The records of Confidential Informant T-1 reflect that on October 25, 1945 the subject gave the residence address of 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn.

The records of the Board of Elections, Brooklyn, reflect that during the period 1946 to 1949 the subject resided at the above address.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised in January, 1953 that the NELSON family had resided at the above address for about six years. The informant stated that he had not seen the subject at the above residence for about two years. The informant reported, however, that the subject's wife has continued to reside at that address since 1945.

II CONNECTION WITH THE CP

A- Entrance Into the CP

The "Daily Worker" issue of November 3, 1940, page 5, reflects that the subject joined the Young Communist League (YCL) in September, 1934 and a year later joined the CP.

It is to be noted that the YCL has been declared by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

B- Positions in YCL and CP, USA

Prior to 1940

On December 17, 1951 Mrs. MIRIAM MANRIQUE, nee MISKY,

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testified before an Immigration and Naturalization Service hearing board that one "boy named NELSON, whom we called NELLIE, but I don't remember his name now," was a member of the Executive Board of the YCL Branch (Abraham Lincoln High School).

1940

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that the subject was Division Chairman, Seaside Division, YCL, as of June 26, 1940.

On August 30, 1940 this informant reported that NELSON was no longer Division Chairman, Seaside Division, YCL.

The informant learned on September 12, 1940 that NELSON was at that time County Administrative Organizational Secretary of the YCL (Kings County) New York.

1941

Mrs. RUTH RAYBURN, 86 West Crosier Avenue, Akron, Ohio, advised in August, 1942 that during the course of time she knew the subject she concluded that he was an organizer of the YCL in Akron. She based this on the fact that the subject's wife told her, upon subject's entrance into the United States Army, that she was going to take over her husband's work as an organizer in the YCL, Akron.

1942-1945

During the above period the subject was reported to have been in the United States Army.

1946

Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised on October 21, 1946 that the subject was affiliated with the Fort Greene Section of the Kings County CP.

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1947

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised on May 23, 1947 that the subject was Section Organizer of the Williamsburg Section, Kings County CP.

Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised on July 12, 1947 that the subject was Section Organizer, Williamsburg Section, Kings County CP.

The "Daily Worker" issue of July 18, 1947 and the issue of December 15, 1947 reflects that LEON NELSON was Section Organizer, Williamsburg Section. The Williamsburg Section Headquarter, at that time, was located at 13 Graham Avenue, Brooklyn.

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised on December 5, 1947 that the subject was a member of the Section Committee, Williamsburg Section, Kings County CP.

1948

Confidential Informant T-5 advised on January 24, 1948 that the subject was a member of the Kings County Board, CP, USA.

Confidential Informant T-6 advised on February 18, 1948 that the subject was Section Organizer, Williamsburg Section, CP.

Confidential Informant T-5 advised on March 20, 1948 that the subject was a full time functionary of the Williamsburg Section, CP, USA.

Confidential Informant T-5 advised on November 1, 1948 that he had received information which indicated that the subject was then a member of the Review Commission, CP, USA.

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1949

Confidential Informant T-5 advised on January 24, 1949 that the subject was on the Kings County Trade Union Committee.

This informant advised in May, 1949 that the subject was a member of the Kings County Committee.

Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, advised that in 1949 he knew of the subject, by name only, and that the subject's position was Trade Union Director, Kings County, CP. The informant added that according to hearsay NELSON was an up and coming member of the Party who had a favorable future ahead.

1950

Confidential Informant T-5 advised in March and April, 1950 that the subject was Chairman of the Trade Union Commission of the Kings County CP and worked out of the Kings County Headquarters, 26 Court Street, Brooklyn.

Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, advised on July 11, 1950 that the subject was Trade Union Director of the Kings County CP.

1951

Confidential Informant T-5 advised on March 1, 1951 that the subject was apparently in charge of security for the Kings County CP.

Confidential Informant T-10, of known reliability, advised the subject was employed by the Kings County CP until September, 1951, although the informant did not know the position the subject held.

1952 to date

Confidential Informant T-11, of known reliability,

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advised that the subject, under the alias of "JOE," first came to the informant's attention as County Organizer, Bronx County CP in the summer of 1952. The informant advised that the subject continues in this capacity, as of May, 1953.

Confidential Informant T-12, of known reliability, advised in April, 1953 that he had received information that the subject was the County Organizer, Bronx County, CP, New York. The informant advised that the subject was operating in the CP underground.

C- Candidacies for Public Office Under The CP Banner

The "Daily Worker" issue of August 1, 1938, page 3, lists the subject as a CP candidate for New York State Assembly, Second District, Kings County, New York.

The "Daily Worker" issue of November 3, 1940, page 8, column 5, carries the following article concerning the subject: "LEON NELSON, candidate in Second Assembly District, Kings County, born November 5, 1915 on the east side of Manhattan, has lived in the Assembly District in which he is a candidate for the last 19 years. Graduated from P.S. 225, New York and attended Abraham Lincoln High School. Won the handball tournament in Brighton Beach, 1929. Joined the YCL in September, 1934. A year later he joined the CP. Active in trade unions. A member of the Dental Technicians Union, which he joined in 1934."

III ATTENDANCE AT COUNTY, STATE AND NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

A- YCL National Board

Confidential Informant T-3 advised that LEON NELSON, Division Chairman, Seaside Division, Kings County, YCL, was a delegate to a special conference of the YCL called by the National Board, YCL in December, 1940.

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B- Brooklyn County Convention

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that the subject was listed as representing all trade unions at a panel of the Brooklyn County Convention in 1948.

C- New York State Convention

The informant advised that the subject's name appeared on a ballot sheet containing names of individuals who were to be elected as delegates from Kings County, CP to the New York State CP.

Confidential Informant T-6 advised that as of June 30, 1948 the subject, among others, was scheduled to be on the committee to handle trade union work at the New York State CP Convention.

D- National Committee Plenary Session

Confidential Informant T-14, of known reliability, advised on July 3, 1941 that LEON NELSON was listed as being present at the National Committee Plenary Session of the CP, USA, held in New York City on June 28-29, 1941. The informant advised that at this meeting it was decided that the CP must use all its strength to go into the war and help Russia. The convention issued a manifesto, "The Peoples' Program of Struggle for the Defeat of Hitler and Hitlerism."

E- National Convention

Confidential Informant T-13, of known reliability, advised that LEON NELSON, from Brooklyn, New York, was an invited guest to a special national convention of the CP held on November 16-17, 1940.

IV ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH
THE CP.

A- YCL

Confidential Informant T-3 advised that the subject

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spoke at an anti-war rally held at Brighton Center, 3200 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, on June 29, 1940. This rally was conducted by the Seaside Division of the YCL.

Informant learned that the subject had called a meeting of twelve YCL members on July 11, 1940 in an attempt to bring the "slackers" into line.

Informant reported on July 18, 1940 she attended a mass memorial meeting to honor the boys who died in Spain. This meeting was held in Brighton Center, Brooklyn, under the auspices of the CP Second Assembly District. Approximately 300 people attended. LEON NELSON called on the ushers there to distribute recruiting cards.

The informant reported that on August 21, 1940 she attended a meeting of the Esplanade Branch of the YCL. In attendance were about 25 members. LEON NELSON spoke on the "Last World War and its Significance."

The informant attended an industrial convention on August 8, 1940, sponsored by the Seaside Division of the YCL and the subject addressed an audience of about 35 individuals.

The informant advised that she attended a group captains meeting, YCL, held on August 24, 1940. After the meeting NELSON met with members of the Seaside Division to plan an open air meeting for that evening. It was agreed he would speak against conscription.

On August 28, 1940 this informant reported to the YCL County Office, 276 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, to be interviewed concerning the county training school. The informant was greeted by LEON NELSON, who introduced her to another person, who conducted the interview.

On August 31, 1940 the informant attended an open air meeting held jointly by the CP and the YCL. The purpose of the meeting was to protest conscription. LEON NELSON spoke at this meeting.

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B- International Workers Order (IWO)

Confidential Informant T-15, of known reliability, advised that LEON NELSON, born November 5, 1915 at New York City, joined the IWO in December, 1939 and terminated his membership prior to April, 1946. In April, 1946 he re-joined and was a member until November, 1946.

In December, 1939 his address was 3076 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn; occupation-rubber worker. In April, 1946 he resided at 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn; occupation-CP organizer.

It is to be noted that the IWO has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

C- CP Veterans Affairs

Confidential Informant T-16, of known reliability, advised that a bulletin issued by the State Veterans Commission of the CP, New York State, in December, 1945 contained the abridged proceedings of the State Veterans Convention held December 1 and 2, 1945.

In this report there was printed the condensed remarks made by delegates to this Commission. The following remarks were attributed to LEON NELSON:

"I, too, agree that the main concentration of our organization must be in a line up where the majority of the veterans are today, and are going, and as pointed out, they are going to the major organizations of the vets, - the American Legion, the VFW, and the Jewish War Veterans. And that is where our attention must be orientated. I would not make light of the statement of Communists working among the masses, the masses of the people in the AFL, within the veterans organizations, certainly that is where our attention must be directed, to help guide the practical activities of these masses of veterans, of this war and the last war, into progressive action.

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"Speak to any GI out of the Army and he sees the danger of being back in uniform in the next six months to a year. The question is how and in what forms labor and the veteran will unite on the question to stop the drive for an imperialist war. And we have the application to the colonial and national peoples, to see that our country, the major imperialist power, takes direct action on this.

"I can see one form, very small, as to how the veteran can speak out and stop this drive. The veteran who is a member of the Communist Party, speaking out directly as a Communist, and we have many Communists veterans, directly in Party work, who have that obligation. In one of the clubs in Brooklyn we have set-up a veterans committee and we are stressing the drive to get the Yanks out of China and back home."

The "Daily Worker" issue of October 26, 1941, page 5, column 1, carried an article captioned, "Thompson-Davis Vet Committee Organized." The article stated that "Twenty combat veterans of World War II yesterday formed a veterans committee for the election of ROBERT THOMPSON and BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Communist candidates for Comptroller and Attorney General." This paper points out that the Committee was to publicize the above elections. On the above Committee, among others, was listed LEON NELSON.

D- Participation in CP Election Campaign

In an advertisement placed in the "Daily Worker," issue of October 16, 1946, page 4, columns 2 and 3, by the Kings County Committee CP, headed, "New Developments in The Fight for Peace and The 1946 Elections," the readers were urged to come and hear various CP functionary speeches. Listed as speakers were LEON NELSON and HAL SIMON, under the Williamsburg Sixth Assembly District Section.

Confidential Informant T-15 advised that BEN (BROOKLYN) DAVIS on behalf of the Brooklyn Communist Election

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Campaign Committee instructed LEON NELSON that he was scheduled to speak in the Brighton Section on October 9, 1949 at a rally.

E- Activities as to CP Registration

Confidential Informant T-6 advised that the subject was a Section Organizer of the Williamsburg Section in 1948 and in this capacity was scheduled to call on MAY MILLER and BILL NORMAN, of the New York State CP to discuss CP registration in June, 1948.

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that the subject was directed to contact CARL DENNIS, Organizational Secretary, Kings County CP, concerning the arranging of transfer from one of his branches during the summer of 1948. N.Y.

F- Meetings of The Kings County Board

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that the subject was notified that the Kings County Board of the CP was to meet on January 24, 1948.

This same informant advised that the subject was scheduled to attend a meeting of the Kings County Committee to be held on March 25, 1949. The agenda of the meeting was to include a review of the Party work since the 1948 election campaign.

G- Activities On The Review Commission

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that LEON NELSON, of the Review Commission of the Kings County CP, advised SID GLUCK, of the Flatbush Section, that JACOB "POP" MINDEL had preferred charges against him and submitted them to the Commission. A hearing was to be held on November 5, 1948 at the County Offices.

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H- Activities in Trade Union Work

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that NELSON called a meeting of the Kings County Trade Union Committee at the Kings County CP Headquarters for January 27, 1949. The agenda was: (1) Fight Against the Taft-Harley Law and (2) Concentration."

The informant advised in January, 1949 that the subject was scheduled to lead a discussion on the ideological aspects of the two outlines on the "Working Class and Industrial Concentration." The informant further advised that the subject had been requested to speak on "Industrial Conscription" at the South Youth Section membership meeting on March 8, 1949.

The informant advised that NELSON sent a letter to several sections of the CP in Brooklyn to arrange for a meeting on March 4, 1949 at the County Headquarters. The meeting was to check up on the program of the metal concentration branches and set up a plan of work for this industry.

The subject's name was listed on a schedule of speakers for the Kings County Industrial Conference to be held on April 16, 1950 at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Avenue, New York City, according to the informant.

NELSON was scheduled to open this conference and to give a report, which would last about one-half hour, later on in the day.

Informant advised that on May 27, 1949 the subject directed a letter to SANDY CHALFIN, Organizer, Williamsburg Section, requesting him to come to the County Office on June 2, 1949 to discuss the re-establishing of their trade union committee and other questions for immediate action.

NY 100-63755

The informant advised that the subject called a conference on the trade unions' fight for Negro rights on October 7 and 8, 1949.

The informant advised that a meeting of the Trade Union Committee was called by the subject to be held September 14, 1949.

The informant advised that the subject called a meeting of all members of the Transport Concentration Groups for September 29, 1949.

The informant advised that the subject was instructed to attend a meeting of National Organizational Department, CP, USA, on November 17, 1949 at National Headquarters, CP, USA, ninth floor, 35 East 12th Street, New York City. This meeting was concerned with the discussion of industry. The main report was to be made by SID STEIN, Assistant National Labor Secretary.

Confidential Informant T-17, of known reliability, advised that JOHN WILLIAMSON, National Labor Secretary, CP, USA, conferred with the subject on March 2, 1950. NELSON made an appointment with WILLIAMSON for March 3, 1950 in connection with some industry.

Confidential Informant T-17 advised that JOHN WILLIAMSON and the subject conferred on March 6, 1950 concerning a concentration conference to be held in Brooklyn on April 2, 1950. According to the informant, WILLIAMSON directed NELSON that rather than have the meeting in Brooklyn he should bring the comrades to Manhattan, where the conference would be held.

I- May Day Parade, 1950

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that the subject was in charge of special captains, Kings County May Day Committee for the 1950 May Day Parade.

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It is to be noted that the United May Day Committee has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

J- Connection With The Civil Rights Congress (CRC)

Confidential Informant T-18 advised that on May 15, 1951 LEON NELSON told NAT ROSS, Executive Secretary, New York State CRC, that BEN (Brooklyn) DAVIS was having a meeting in Brooklyn that night and thought it would be a good idea for him to use ROSS' film to "wake up the people."

This informant reported that NAT ROSS contacted LEON NELSON on May 5, 1951 and advised NELSON that he wanted to see him that afternoon.

The CRC has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

K- Disciplinary Action

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that the Kings County CP in an outline for developing the struggle for Negro rights pointed out that LEON NELSON had been found guilty of national chauvinistic expressions in connection with a group of foreign born workers.

L- Miscellaneous

The "Daily Worker" issue of July 18, 1947 contains an article by LEON NELSON, as Section Organizer for the Williamsburg Section, CP, USA. This article was captioned, "Williamsburg CP Pledges Aid to DENNIS." It is in the form of a letter addressed to WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, as Chairman of the Defend DENNIS Committee. In this letter NELSON states

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that his section pledges aid to the defense of EUGENE DENNIS, General Secretary of the CP, who appeared before the House Un-American Activities Committee. He states that the section pledges to do the utmost in leading the fight to preserve "the rights of our CP."

In regard to the above it is to be noted that on April 10, 1947 EUGENE DENNIS defied a subpoena to appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities and was cited for contempt of Congress on April 22, 1947.

The "Daily Worker" issue of March 25, 1949, page 3, column 1, lists LEO NELSON as a member of the delegation to visit the chambers of Judge MEDINA protesting his ruling denying CP Chairman, WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, the right to testify during the proceedings of the trial of the eleven CP leaders by written deposition.

Confidential Informant T-9 attended a meeting of the Brooklyn CP held at Webster Hall, 119 East 11th Street, New York City, on July 11, 1950. Admission was by invitation.

The meeting was opened by CARL VEDRO, Chairman of the Kings County CP, who introduced LEON NELSON, Trade Union Director of Kings County CP, as temporary chairman of the meeting. NELSON, in turn, introduced GUS HALL, National Secretary of the CP, USA, who spoke on the subject, "Korea and The Fight For Peace." HALL spoke concerning the reasons for the Korean war and the United States intervention in Korea, which he termed "imperialistic." HALL outlined the task confronting Party members, instructing them to obtain signatures to expell the imperialistic roles of the United States and to urge the acceptance of Communist China into the United Nations.

V ACTIVITIES IN THE CP UNDERGROUND
AS BRONX COUNTY ORGANIZER

Confidential Informant T-8 advised that LEON NELSON

NY 100-63755

had been the Brooklyn CP Trade Union Director and described him as an up and coming young Communist who would certainly operate in the CP underground apparatus.

Confidential Informant T-12 advised that he feels certain that most of the full time section organizers in the Bronx County CP have been dispensed with and those remaining would be in charge of a region of approximately 50 members.

The informant feels that there are only four or five full time paid employees in the Bronx, who would now be in a leading position.

The informant observed that due to the reshuffling of personnel brought about for security reasons a person who was formerly a CP leader in Ohio may now be in a leading position in the Bronx. As an illustration of this point he has learned that one "JOE", last name unknown, is now Bronx County Organizer. He stated that he has also heard that "JOE" was referred to as NELLIE.

The informant recalled that he was acquainted with an individual whose name was NELLIE and who was formerly Trade Union Secretary of the Kings County CP. The informant knew NELLIE's true name to be NELSON but did not recall his first name. The informant also knew that NELSON was no longer living at home but was apparently residing away from home for security reasons.

The informant obtained information during April, 1953 that the true identity of "JOE", who was also known as NELLIE, was actually LEON NELSON.

Confidential Informant T-11 advised in April, 1953 that the subject was known to him, as early as July, 1952, as the Bronx County Organizer of the CP and still holds that position. The informant advised that since arriving in the Bronx the subject has been operating entirely in the underground and his identity is closely guarded. The

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informant advised the subject probably does not attend any mass meetings of the CP and the only people subordinate to the subject who would be in contact with him are those who are on a regional level in the Bronx. These contacts would be limited to probably four people, however, other CP members could be in contact with the subject, but only at the subject's request and prescribed appointment.

The informant advised further that the subject had directed that a reception be held at the Allerton Community Center on October 14, 1952 in honor of ISSY ~~BEGUN~~.

It is to be noted that BEGUN, the former Chairman of the Bronx County CP, was arrested in New York City in June, 1951 for violation of the Smith Act. He was placed on trial in the Southern District of New York and was acquitted by direction of the presiding judge.

The informant advised that the subject had been very active in the Bronx CP election campaign during 1952 and that the subject had made the statement that the Bronx CP had spent over \$8,000 in that election campaign.

VI USE OF ALIASES

It is to be noted that the subject's given name at birth was LEON NELSON.

It has been reported, under the caption of residences, that when the subject came to reside at 2738 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York, he was known under the name of LEON BLISS.

As has been previously reported the subject is known in the CP underground as "JOE."

VII DESCRIPTION

The following description of the subject was made

NY 100-63755

available in 1950 from the files of the Veterans Administration,
37 Ryerson Street, Brooklyn, New York

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Name | LEON NELSON - DESCRIPTION |
| Address | 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York |
| Birth date | November 5, 1915 |
| Place of birth | New York, New York |
| Sex | Male |
| Race | White |
| Height | 5'7" (shoeless) |
| Weight | 150 pounds (stripped) |
| Hair | Black |
| Eyes | Brown |
| Complexion | Ruddy |
| Frame | Slight |
| Army Serial Number | 35378771 |
| Social Security No. | 130-07-1339 |
| Relatives | |
| wife | JEANNE NELSON, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn |
| son | RONNY NELSON, born [redacted] 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn |
| father | HARRY NELSON, age 67 (1945) 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn |
| mother | YETTA NELSON, age 62 (1945) 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn N.Y. |
| brother | SAM NELSON 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn (1945) |
| brother | IRVING NELSON 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn (1945) |
| brother | JACK NELSON 1996 East 16th Street, Brooklyn (1945) |

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The following description of the subject was
furnished by Confidential Informant T-11 in December, 1952:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Name | X "JOE" - <i>George Raft</i> |
| Age | 35 years |
| Height | 5'9" |
| Weight | 150 pounds |
| Hair | Dark |
| Complexion | Dark |
| Peculiarities | Slim face-long; looks like GEORGE RAFT, no glasses, wears trench coat. |

P

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGEINFORMANTS

| Identity of Source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date Received | Agent to whom furnished | File no. where located |
|---|--|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| T-1 Selective Service records, LB 145, Brooklyn, NY | Background information | 4/20/53 | SE DONALD C. STRELETZKY | 100-63755-1A 16 |
| T-2 WILLIAM RODRIGUEZ, Residence superintendent, 1985 E 15th St., Brooklyn, NY | | 12/12/52 | JOHN M. CONLON | 100-63755-97 |
| T-3 Records of BSSI, NYCPD on LEON NELSON | YCL activity | checked in 1942 | WILMER L. THOMPSON | 100-63755-12 |
| T-4 [redacted] | 10/21/46 | 10/21/46 | | |
| T-5 [redacted] | Williamsburg, S.O. | 5/23/47 | JOSEPH F. BRENNAN; JOHN A. HARRINGTON | 100-63755-15 |
| | Kings County Board | 1/24/58 | JOHN A. HARRINGTON; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-26603-1B 3718 |
| | Williamsburg S.O. | 3/20/48 | " | 100-26603-1B 3987 |

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUED

INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date Received | Agent to whom furnished | File no where located |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| T-5 (continued) | Review Commission | 11/1/48 | JOHN A. HARRINGTON; NICHOLAS J. MASTROVICH | 100-63755-1A-7 |
| | Trade Union Committee | 1/24/49 | NICHOLAS J. MASTROVICH; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-26603-1A-4610 |
| | Kings Co. Committee | 5/13/49 | JOHN E. KEARY; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-26603-1A-4929 |
| | Trade Union Commission | 3/29/50 4/5/50 | JOHN E. KEARY | 100-63755-62 |
| | Trade Union Director | 4/5/50 | " | 100-26603-C 43 |
| | Security-Kings Co. | 3/1/51 | JOHN E. KEARY; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-26603-C 43 |
| | Brooklyn Co. Convention | 6/15/48 | JOHN A. HARRINGTON; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-26603-1A-4055 |
| | NY State Convention | 6/30/48 | " | 100-26603-1A4053 |

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUED

INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date Received | Agent to whom furnished | File no where located |
|--------------------|--|---------------|---|-----------------------|
| T-5 (cont'd) | CP Election Campaign | 12/6/48 | JOHN A. HARRINGTON; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-63755-33 |
| | Transfer of CP membership | 6/9/48 | " | 100-26603-1A 4063 |
| | Kings Co. Board | 1/20/48 | " | 100-26603-1A 3967 |
| | Review Commission | 11/1/48 | JOHN A. HARRINGTON; NICHOLAS J. MASTROVICH | 100-63755-1A 7 |
| | Kings Co. Committee | 3/3/49 | JOHN E. KEARY | 100-63755-62 |
| | Trade Union Work (1/27/49) | 1/24/49 | NICHOLAS J. MASTROVICH; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-26603-1A4610 |
| " | " (Jan. 1949) | 1/26/49 | " | 100-26649-1A |
| " | " (3/8/49) | 2/18/49 | " | 100-23290-1A |
| " | " (3/4/49) | 2/24/49 | " | 100-63755-1A 9 |

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUED

INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date Received | Agent to whom furnished | File no where located |
|--------------------|--|---------------|--|-----------------------|
| T-5 (cont'd) | Trade Union Work (3/4/49) | 2/21/49 | NICHOLAS J. MASTROVICH; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-63755-1A 9 |
| " | " (4/16/50) | 4/24/50 | JOHN E. KEARY; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-26603-1A 5927 |
| " | " (5/12/49) | 5/19/49 | JOHN E. KEARY | 100-63755-62 |
| " | " (5/27/49) | 6/2/49 | JOHN E. KEARY; SE KIERAN F. BUCKLEY | 100-88597-1A |
| " | " (10/7-8/49) | 9/8/49 | " | 100-63755-1A 11 |
| " | " (9/14/49) | 9/8/49 | " | 100-63755-1A 11 |
| " | " (9/29/49) | 9/16/49 | " | 100-63755-1A 10 |
| " | " (11/17/49) | 11/18/49 | " | 100-63755-1A 12 |
| | May Day Parade (1950) | 4/12/50 | " | 100-80865-1A |
| | Disciplinary Action | 6/17/50 | JOHN E. KEARY | 100-26603-C 43 |

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUEDINFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date Received | Agent to whom furnished | File where located |
|--------------------|--|---------------|--|--------------------|
| T-6 [redacted] | Williamsburg S.O. | 1/12/48 | EVERETT K. DEANE; SE THOMAS E. O'CONNOR | 100-26603-1A 3636 |
| " | " | 2/18/48 | EVERETT K. DEANE; SE STEPHEN W. JENNINGS | 100-26603-1B 3718 |
| | NY State Convention | 7/9/48 | HERBERT P. LARSON; SE THOMAS E. O'CONNOR | 100-31019-1B 41 |
| | CP Registration | 2/18/48 | EVERETT K. DEANE; SE STEPHEN W. JENNINGS | 100-26603-1B 3718 |
| T-7 Anonymous | | | | |
| T-8 [redacted] | Trade Union Director | 10/3/50 | JOHN E. KEARY | 100-63755-68 |
| | Contacts & associates | 10/10/50 | JOHN M. CONLON; ARBOR W. GRAY | 100-63755-94A |

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUEDINFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date received | Agent to whom furnished | File where located |
|--|--|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| T-9 [redacted] | Trade Union Director Meeting, Webster Hall | 7/11/50 " | JOHN E. KEARY " | [redacted] |
| T-10 [redacted] | September, 1951 | September, 1951 | | |
| T-11 [redacted] | Activities as Bronx Co. Organizer | 4/21/43; 10/13/52 | JOHN W. DOOLEY | inst.: [redacted] |
| T-12 [redacted] | Bronx Co. Organizer " " " | 4/13/53 1/26/53 | JOSEPH A. CULLEN JOSEPH A. CULLEN; JAMES N. JULIANA | inst. [redacted] |
| T-13 Bureau letter 10/21/41, captioned "CP, USA, VOORHIS ACT" | Source not further identified | | | 102-1-80, p. 14 |
| T-14 Col. WALTER L. FUBERSHAW, MID 6th Area | Attendance at National Comm. meeting. | 7/3/41 | Bureau | 100-4931-700 |

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUEDINFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date received | Agent to whom furnished | File where located |
|--------------------|--|---|-------------------------|--------------------|
| T-15 [redacted] | IWO membership | 4/23/53 | DAMON W. PITCHER | inst. |
| T-16 [redacted] | NY State Veterans Conference | December, 1945 | CHARLES F. HEINER | 100-79498-1A 17 |
| T-17 [redacted] | 3/2/50 3/6/50 3/7/50 4/14/50 | 3/2/50 3/6/50 3/7/50 4/14/50 | | |
| T-18 [redacted] | 5/15/51 5/5/51 3/20/51 6/15/51 | 5/15/51 5/5/51 3/20/51 6/15/51 | | |
| T-19 [redacted] | 2/9/50 | 2/9/50 | | |

LEADSCLEVELANDAt Akron, Ohio

Inasmuch as the subject was prominent in the YCL in Akron in early 1940's, Cleveland office should contact

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUED

LEADS (CONTINUED)

all informants who are familiar with YCL activities and all sources familiar with YCL activities to determine subject's activities while there.

Should review the indices of the Cleveland office and report all pertinent information on subject.

Will conduct the following listed agency checks:

Selective Service
Credit
Criminal
Board of Elections

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will, in an effort to locate subject, consider the advisability of doing such through appropriate coverage on the following individuals, whom informants feel may know the whereabouts of the subject:

JOHN LAVIN; EUGENE PERLSTEIN; MORRIS PALANSKY;
MORRIS STILLMAN; ARNIE GOLD; IRENE AFTERMAN; SOPHIE NASCIAMENTO
and CONNIE JACKSON.

Will be in close contact with informants for any information they may be able to furnish concerning subject's whereabouts.

Will consider the advisability of establishing technical coverage and highly confidential source on subject's wife to learn of any possible contact subject and wife may have.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONTINUED

LEADS (CONTINUED)

Will, for the purpose of background information, conduct the following agency checks:

Motor Vehicle Bureau
Credit Bureau
New York City Police Department
Veterans Administration
Seth Low Junior College
Abraham Lincoln High School
Board of Elections

At Brooklyn, New York

Will establish neighborhood contact in vicinity of 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, home residence of subject and present residence of subject's wife and child.

REFERENCE

Report of SA SIDNEY E. HOWE, 6/2/50, New York.

100-142323-30

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

LVP
gjm
FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
SM-C

DATE: 6/17/63

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

For the completion of the Bureau files, there is enclosed herewith two photographs of subject marching in the 1949 May Day Parade.

The photograph was identified by as being identical with subject. Informant stated that it is an excellent photograph of subject.

100-142323-10

Encs. (2)

2 ENCL

RECORDED-92

100-142323-10
JUN 22 1963

INDEXED-92

JJK:MMCP

62 JUN 29 1963

Enclosures to Bureau
Bufile 100-142323
NY file 100-63755

100-142323-50

Encl to D. 63755
100-63755 142323



LEON NELSON

100-142323.50

NY 100-63755

Bufile 100-142323

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 6-18-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUL 6 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-51

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 6-24-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736.

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUL 6 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-53

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 6-24-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 53 JUL 6 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142327.54

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 6-24-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUL 6 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-55

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 6-16-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUL 6 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-56

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 7-1-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 55 JUL 20 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-1

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

RA

SAC, New York (100-63752)

July 2, 1953

Director, FBI (100-142323)

LEON NELSON, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rerep SA John J. Kearney dated May 15, 1953,
at New York.

It is noted that the caption of this report
is carried as Internal Security - C although the Bureau
has not been advised that this subject is now considered
a key figure in your office. The Bureau should be
advised whether you desire to designate the subject a
key figure and if you do, you should submit an amended
form FD-122 to reflect that status.

RSG:mac
mac

15

RECORDED - 117

100-142323-37

JUL 3 1953
FBI
NEW YORK

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gearty _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
 Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

53 JUL 10 1953

COMM - FBI
JUL 2 1953
MAILED 30

78132
100-142323-37

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 6-30-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUL 15 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-58

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

DATE OF MAIL 6-24-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHIRE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY 55 JUL 20 1953

FILE NUMBER 100-142323-59

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CF

Form 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|---|
| REPORT MADE AT CLEVELAND | DATE WHEN MADE 7-10-53 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-23, 24; 7-1, 7, 8-53 | REPORT MADE BY JAMES J. GAFFNEY lvh |
| TITLE LEON NELSON, was. Leon Bliss, "Joe", "Nellie" | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject was Young Communist League organizer in Akron, O. prior to his induction into the armed services in May 1942. Agency checks in Akron, O. negative.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

Investigation conducted at Akron, Ohio, by SA MAX G. MC DANIEL.

I. BACKGROUND

A. Credit

Miss NANCY NEELI, Akron Credit Bureau, advised on June 23, 1953 she was unable to locate a record for the subject in their files.

B. Criminal Record

Records of the Akron Police Department and the Summit County Sheriff's Office failed to reflect any record for the subject.

C. Board of Elections

Miss DOROTHY WAGNER, Assistant Clerk, Summit County Board of Elections, Court House, Akron,

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|--|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">COPY IN FILE</div> <p>5-Bureau (100-442528) (RM) 3-New York (100-64755) (RM) 2-Cincinnati (RM) 2-Cleveland (100-13633) JUL 24 1953</p> | | <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">100-142231-62</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">JUL 14 1953</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">RECORDED-27</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">INDEXED-27</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">EX-124</div> |
| | | <div style="font-size: 0.8em;">STAMPED</div> | |

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952-O-210616

16-59255-2

COPIES DESTROYED

CV. F. O.
100-13633

Ohio, advised on June 23, 1953 she was unable to locate any record for the subject in their file.

II SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

All informants mentioned herein are of known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

On May 1, 1942, T-1 advised the Young Communist League organizer LEON NELSON appeared at local Communist Party Headquarters in Akron, Ohio that date for the last time prior to his induction into the armed forces.

The Young Communist League has been designated by the United States Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

On May 2, 1952, T-1 advised subject was an active member of the Young Communist League and a youth organizer who had entered the armed services on May 1, 1942.

On October 1, 1943, T-2 made available records maintained by JEANNE BLISS NELSON, former Summit County, Ohio, Young Communist League secretary, 102 North Adams Street, Akron, Ohio. These records reflected LEON NELSON was a member of the Young Communist League in the armed forces.

On September 13, 1943, T-3 advised that LEON NELSON used to be an organizer in Akron and has been in North Africa with the Army for about a year; that he was training with the Amphibious Corps and then when the Army invaded Sicily they made him a mechanic.

T-4, of unknown reliability, who was a member of the State Committee of the Young Communist League in 1943, advised JEANNE NELSON and her husband, name unknown to source, were very active in the Young Communist League and the American Youth for Democracy in its early stages and both were also on the State Committee of the Young Communist League in 1943.

CV. F. O.
100-13633

The American Youth for Democracy has been designated by the United States Attorney General as falling within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

On July 11, 1944, T-2 advised information maintained by the American Youth for Democracy at 611 Finance Building, Cleveland, Ohio, reflected a LEON BLISS was "on leave".

On November 8, 1943, T-5 advised subject's name appeared in a Communist Party petition circulated in Stark County, Ohio.

On May 1, 1942, T-1 advised a "NELLIE NELSON", sister to LEON NELSON, spoke for the Young Communist League as secretary of Akron and Canton, Ohio, at a May Day Rally sponsored by the Communist Party in the Akron, Ohio area.

On July 1, 1953, T-6, who was in a position to know of Young Communist League activities in Akron, Ohio in the early 1940's, advised he has never known or heard of the subject.

- R U C -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
- 3 -

CV. F. O.
100-13633

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

| Identity of source | Date of activity and/or description of information | Date Rec'd where known, otherwise date of report | Agent to whom furnished or Agent directing to file | File No. where located |
|--|--|--|--|------------------------|
| T-1 [REDACTED] | Photostatic report dated 5-1-42 | 7-10-42 | JOHN M. MATTER | 100-5912-92 |
| | Photostatic report dated 5-2-42 | 7-10-42 | " | 100-5912-93 |
| T-2 Anonymous | | | | |
| T-3 [REDACTED] | 9-13-43 | 9-13-43 | (No further documentation necessary) | |
| FOIA(b) (7) - (C) T-4 [REDACTED] | | | | |
| | 1943 | 3-5-53 | ROBERT H. ROBINSON KENNETH C. HOWE (Orally) | 100-5765 |
| T-5 Unknown | Name on CP petition | 11-8-43 | R. J. CAMPBELL | Destroyed |
| T-6 [REDACTED] | Negative information | 7-1-53 | MAX G. McDANIEL DWIGHT B. ELLIS (Orally) | 100-13633-13 |

CV. F. O.
100-13633

LEADS

CINCINNATI

At Columbus, Ohio

Will review records of the Selective Service Records Depot, 40 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio, and report all pertinent information on subject.

It should be noted records of Local Board 145 at Brooklyn, New York, reflect subject born November 5, 1915 in New York City, registered under the Selective Service Act of 1940 with Local Board 145. He was classified 3-A on April 9, 1941, reclassified 1-A on March 3, 1942, and reclassified 1-C on April 30, 1942. He was inducted into the United States Army on April 30, 1942 and discharged on October 25, 1945.

By an undated letter the subject advised that since moving from New York City to Akron (1942) his economic status had changed for the better. He said that, therefore, he felt he should be placed in the classification 1-A.

On February 25, 1942, Mrs. JEANNE NELSON advised the Local Board that she grants her husband permission to join the Air Corps or any other branch of the military service. She said she was able to support herself.

The records further reflect on September 2, 1941 subject advised his residence was 198 West State Street, Akron, Ohio, in care of SIGMUND AGNEW.

Mrs. RUTH RAYBURN advised that on or about November 15, 1941 subject and his wife came to reside at 86 West Crosier Avenue, Akron, Ohio.

Miss MARGARET F. BAHEL, Assistant Clerk, Local Board 113, Selective Service System, Akron, Ohio, advised on June 24, 1953 that any selective service records with birth prior to August 30, 1922 would be kept on file at the Selective Service Records Depot, 40 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio.

REFERENCE: Summary report of SA JOHN J. KEARNEY, 5-15-53, New York.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| REPORT MADE AT ST. LOUIS, MO. | DATE WHEN MADE 7-8-53 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5-14; 7-1-53 | REPORT MADE BY SE THOMAS A. KEANE nln |
| TITLE LEON NELSON | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: The records of AGO, MPRC, Dept. of the Army, St. Louis, Mo., indicate **LEON NELSON, ASN 35378771**, in U.S. Army 4-30-42 to 10-12-45. Honorably discharged as T/5 by reason of demobilization. Background and descriptive data set out.

- RUC -

G.I. R. -10
100-142-323
7-22-53

DETAILS: AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A review of the Army service record on file at the Adjutant General's Office, Military Personnel Records Center, World War II Unit, Department of the Army, for **LEON NELSON**, Army Serial Number 35378771, indicates that he was inducted into the U.S. Army on April 30, 1942 and entered on active duty on the same date at Fort Hayes, Ohio. He was honorably discharged on October 12, 1945 as a Technician Fifth Class from the 1257th SCU, Tilton General Hospital, Fort Dix, New Jersey by reason of demobilization. He served five months and twelve days in foreign service in the European Theater. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal and the European African Middle Eastern Theater Medal. His character and efficiency ratings ranged from unknown to excellent. There is no record of courts-martial or absences without leave. The following background and descriptive information is contained in the record:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Date & Place of Birth: | November 5, 1915 at New York City. |
| Height: | 6' 1" |
| Weight: | 126 lbs. |
| Race: | White |
| Hair: | Black |
| Eyes: | Brown |
| Education: | Brooklyn College; Columbia University. |
| Civilian Occupation: | Mechanical Dentist |
| Military Occupation: | Truck Driver |

P

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - BUREAU 3 - NEW YORK (100-63755) 2 - ST. LOUIS (100-12968) | | 100-142-323 RECORDED-31 INDEXED-31 EX-124 JUL 19 1953 12 |

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SL 100-12968

Description of Subject (Cont.)

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Addresses: | 86 West Crosier St., Akron, Ohio, (1942). 1996 East 16th St., Brooklyn, New York, (1945). |
| Relatives: | Wife-Mrs. JEANNE NELSON , 1802 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, New York. Parents-YETTA and HARRY NELSON , 3076 Coney Island Ave., Brooklyn, New York. <u>Mrs. + Mr.</u> |
| LDB #: | 7 at Summit, New York. |
| Order #: | V-1251 |
| SS #: | 130-07-1339 |
| Vet. Adm. Claim #: | 6495692, New York, New York. |

- RUC -

SL 100-12968

- ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE -

REFERENCE: New York letter to St. Louis dated 5-6-53.

-3-

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 7-13-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUL 31 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-62

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323)
FROM : SAC, NY (100-63755)
SUBJECT: LEON NELSON
IS-C

DATE: JUL 14 1953

Remylet, 6/1/53.

In an effort to locate subject the following investigation has been conducted:

Spot surveillances have been conducted at the residence of EUGENE PERLSTEIN, a probable contact of subject, with negative results. *N.A.*

A mail cover on subject's wife and probable CP contacts has been maintained. However, from a review of these results, it appears that subject is not in contact by mail with these people.

Inquiry in the neighborhood of known and possible contacts of the subject is being conducted to determine the location and contacts of subject.

JJK:ELB

RECORDED-31

INDEXED

EX-124

JUL 17 1953

67 JUL 23 1953 2114

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: July 22, 1953

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

Card U.T.D.
8.5.53 *af*SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, wa.
IS-COK *fr*

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____ KEY FIGURE _____

TAB FOR DETCOM X TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____DATE OF BIRTH *OK* _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

JJK:mat

AUG 7 1953

NOT RECORDED
25 JUL 23 1953*INDEXED*
OK

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-112323)

DATE: JUL 24 1953

FROM : SAC, NY (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

Rebulet, 7/2/53.

Subject is being placed on the key figure list of the NYO inasmuch as he has been identified as Bronx County Organizer, CP, by [redacted] and [redacted]

A photograph of subject has been forwarded to the Bureau and handwriting specimens will be obtained as soon as possible.

1 - NY (100-96900)

JJK:BLB

EX-128

RECORDED - 57

JUL 23 1953

FBI

JUL 31 10 00 AM '53
RECEIVED235
23 AUG 3 1953

Office Memorandum

MEM • UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 8/12/53

FROM : *✓* SAC, NY (100-63755)
*9/12*SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

Remylet 7/24/53.

*posted
8/27/53
JH*

Inasmuch as subject has been placed on the Key Figure List of the NYO, there is enclosed for the completion of the Bureau files, Photostatic copies of subject's handwriting, obtained from Selective Service files, Local Board No. 145, Brooklyn, NY.

Enc. (1)

RECORDED - 94

EX-103

JJK:CT

62 AUG 27 1953

ENCLOSURE (1) to Bureau

ATTENTION FBI LABORATORY

Bufile # 100-142323

NY File # 100-63755

100-142323-65
ENCLOSURE

Dear Sir

In reply to your request; -
my nearest Local Board is
Board 7 which is at 1311
Grant St. Akron, Ohio

I have already tried to
enlist in the Army but this
Board has told me that I
must obtain a release from
my local board first. Therefore,
I am now making the necessary
request for a release in order
to Volunteer. Thank you
Leon Nelson #1251

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

April 8 - 1941

Gentlemen

In order to Clarify my true status, I am making this true statement. During the past year my earnings was low, as the Building Trades was not steady, And when I filed my questionnaire I was temporarily unemployed. I started working again on April 2nd And my salary now is \$65⁰⁰ per week.

My wife is a stenographer and earns \$18⁰⁰ per week and the reason she cant get up her position is because of the uncertainty of my trade being steady. I am a metal Lather As soon as my trade indicates any steady ness. my wife intends to stop work, As we are anxious to have a family. I will thank the board to review my case as truthfully stated

Sworn to before me this
8th day of April 1941
Leon Tansley
advising Board #145

Leon Nelson
2738 E. 19th St.

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

LOCAL BOARD No. 145
Public School No. 253
Ocean View Ave. & B. 6th St.
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

"Order No. 1251

THESE QUESTIONS FORM A PART OF YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE AND MUST BE ANSWERED.

Have you any brothers and sisters? _____ State below their names, ages, addresses, and whether married or single.

Sam - Married - 38 Year
Irving - Married - 1986 C. 16 St. Bklyn. 33 years
Jack - Married - Washington, D. C. 36 years

Do they live with you? No Do they maintain their own homes?

Yes
Where are they employed? Do not know What are their wages? Do not know

How much do they contribute toward the home? Nothing

Are there any other relatives or boards living with you? No

How much do these boarders or relatives pay per week? _____

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

Are your dependents receiving relief, pension or compensation from any source? No

Do you or any other member of your family own any property? No
If so, state what kind and value _____

Do you or any other member of your family have a bank account? No
State the name of the Bank and the amount _____

Remarks:

Signature

Leon Nelson

STATEMENTS OF THE REGISTRANT

Series I.—IDENTIFICATION

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant shall fill in all statements in this series.

- My name is (print) Leon — Nelson
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)
- In addition to the name given above, I have also been known by the name or names of _____
- My residence is 2738 E. 19th St.
(Number and street or R. F. D. route)
N. Y. C. KINGS N. Y.
(Town—[City, town, or village]) (County) (State)
- My telephone number is none (If you have no phone, write "None.")
(Town) (Exchange) (Number)
- My Social Security number is 130-07-1339 (If none, write "None.")

Series II.—PHYSICAL CONDITION (Confidential)

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant shall fill in all statements in this series.

- To the best of my knowledge, I have no physical or mental defects or diseases. If so, they are none
(Have, have no) (List defects or diseases here)
- I am not an inmate of an institution. If so, its name is none
(Am, am not) (Name of hospital, prison, or other institution)
and it is located at none
(Give address)

Series III.—EDUCATION

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant shall fill in all statements in this series.

- I have completed 8 years of elementary school and 4 years of high school.
(Number) (Number)
- I have had the following schooling other than elementary and high school (if none, write "None"):

| Name of Vocational School, College, or University | Course of Study | Length of Time Attended |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <u>B'bllyn, Evening College</u> | | <u>1 year</u> |
| <u>Seth Low Junior College</u> | | <u>1 year</u> |

Series IV.—OCCUPATION OR ACTIVITY

INSTRUCTIONS.—All registrants shall fill in statement No. 1 in this series. Every registrant who is now working shall fill in all statements in this series except No. 9. Every registrant who is now prevented from working merely because of some seasonal or temporary interruption shall fill in all statements except statements numbered 2 through 8 in this series.

As used in this series, words such as occupation, work, and job apply to services rendered in any endeavor and to training or preparation for any endeavor.

- I am not working at present.
(Am, am not)
- The job I am working at now is (give full title, for example: Construction draftsman, turret-lathe operator, stationary engineer, farm laborer, prosecuting attorney, physics teacher, medical student, policeman, marriage license clerk, etc.): _____
- I do the following work in my present job (be specific—give a brief statement of your duties): _____
- I have done this kind of work for _____
(Length of time)
- My average weekly earnings in this job are \$_____ (Confidential.)
- In this job I am ☐ an employee, working for salary, wages, commission, or other compensation.
(Put an X in one box) ☐ an independent worker, working on my own account, not hired by anyone, and not hiring any help.
☐ working for my father or for the head of my family, but receiving no pay.
☐ an employer or proprietor hiring _____ paid workers
(Number) ☐ a student preparing for _____ Will graduate _____
Date of State examination for license _____
- My employer is: _____
(Name of organization or proprietor, not foreman or supervisor)
_____ (Address of place of employment—street or R. F. D. route, city, and State)
whose business is _____
(For example: Farm, airplane engine factory, retail food store, W. P. A.)
- Other business or work in which I am now engaged is _____
(If none, write "none")

Series IV.—OCCUPATION OR ACTIVITY.—Continued

9. If you are not now working because of some seasonal or temporary interruption, attach to this page a statement (a) explaining what the interruption is, when it began, and when you expect to be able to resume your work; and (b) supplying substantially the same information regarding your last job as is required in the above items in this series.
10. I Am not licensed in a trade or profession; if so, I am licensed as _____
(Am, am not) (For example: Marine pilot, physician, aviator, stationary engineer)
11. I Am not at present an apprentice under a written or oral agreement with my employer.
(Am, am not)
12. Other facts which I consider necessary to present fairly the occupation which I have described, or my connection with it, as a ground for classification are (if none, write "None"): none

INSTRUCTIONS.—You may attach to this page any statement from your employer which you think the Local Board should consider in determining your classification. Such statement will then become a part of this Questionnaire.

Series V.—OTHER OCCUPATIONAL EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant shall fill in this statement. Include any formal apprenticeship served.

1. I have also worked at the following occupations other than my present job, during the last 5 years: (If none, write "None")

| OCCUPATION (Give full title; for example, turret-lathe operator, farmer, etc.) | KIND OF WORK DONE (Be specific—give a brief statement of your duties) | YEARS WORKED | |
|---|--|--------------|--------------|
| | | From— | To— |
| <u>Dental Technician</u> | <u>All Around Rubber Worker</u> | 19 <u>30</u> | 19 <u>37</u> |
| <u>Sprayer</u> | <u>Spray rubber on leather for shoes</u> | 19 <u>38</u> | 19 <u>40</u> |

Series VI.—AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant who works on a farm shall fill in this series, in addition to filling out Series IV and V above.

1. I work on or operate a farm as—
☐ sole owner of the farm.
☐ joint owner with _____ (Name) _____ (Address)
☐ hired manager _____
☐ cash tenant or renter _____
☐ standing share tenant _____
☐ share cropper _____
☐ share tenant _____
☐ wage hand (hired man).
☐ unpaid family worker.
 (Put an "X" in the correct box.) My agreement (if any) expires _____ (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year)
2. I have farmed for _____ years. 3. I _____ live on the farm with which I am connected.
(Do, do not)
4. I _____ actually and personally responsible for the operation of the farm on which I work.
(Am, am not)
5. The principal crops and livestock of the farm I operate or work on are:

| Names of Crops | Acres Devoted to Each | Kinds of Livestock | Number of Each Now on Farm |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

6. The number of hands employed on this farm is _____
(Number)
7. Other facts which I consider necessary to present fairly the agricultural enterprise I have described and my connection with it as a ground for classification are: (If none, write "None.") _____

Series VII.—DEPENDENCY (Confidential except as to names and addresses of claimed dependents.)

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant shall fill in the statements numbered 1 and 2 in this series.

1. (a) I am ☐ single. (b) If married, I married my present wife at nyc ny
☒ married. (City and State)
☐ a widower. on April 16 - 1938
☐ divorced. (Month, day, year)
- (c) I do live with her. If not, her address is _____
(Do, do not)

2. I have none children who are under 18 years of age or are physically or mentally handicapped, and who live with me.
(Number of children; if none, write "No")

"DEPENDENT." AS USED IN THIS SERIES DEFINED

The word "dependent," as used in this series, means any person to whose support the registrant contributes more than merely a small part of such person's support (or to whose support the registrant would contribute were he not temporarily prevented from so doing by the registrant's physical or economic situation) who is either (a) the registrant's wife divorced wife parent foster parent or grandparent, or (b) the registrant's child, unborn child brother half-brother, sister or half-sister who is under 18 years of age or is physically or mentally handicapped, or (c) a person whose support the registrant has assumed in good faith, who is either under 18 years of age or is physically or mentally handicapped.

Only a person who is a United States citizen or who lives in the United States or its Territories or possessions may be regarded as a dependent.

Based on the information contained in this Questionnaire and on other information which the Local Board may receive the Local Board will determine whether the "dependent" is an individual who is dependent in fact for support in a reasonable manner in view of such individual's circumstances on income earned by the registrant by his work in a business, occupation, or employment.

INSTRUCTIONS.—Only those registrants who believe that one or more persons are dependent for support on the registrant's earnings from his work are required to fill in the statements numbered 3 through 12 in this series.

3. The following persons live with me in a home maintained by me and are entirely or partly dependent on my earnings from my work in my business, occupation, or employment, and have no other sources of income except as stated below:

| Name | Sex | Age at last birthday | Relationship to registrant | Date when support began | Dependent's income, last 12 months other than board and lodging provided by the registrant in his home. | | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | Contributed by the registrant | Earned by the dependent | Received from other sources |
| <u>Jeon Nelson</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>24</u> | <u>Wife</u> | <u>April 16, 1945</u> | <u>\$202.46</u> | <u>\$18.00</u> | <u>None</u> |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | |

The net cost to me of maintaining my home during the last 12 months, after deducting \$_____ contributed by others than myself for the support of such dependents was \$ 441.90

4. The following persons do not live with me in a home maintained by me, but are entirely or partly dependent on my earnings from my work in my business, occupation, or employment, and have no other sources of income except as stated below:

| Name and address | Sex | Age at last birthday | Relationship to registrant | Date when support began | Dependent's income, last 12 months | | |
|------------------|-----|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | Contributed by the registrant | Earned by the dependent | Received from other sources |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | |

5. The cause of the dependency of any persons over 18 years of age (excluding my wife) listed above is as follows: (Give the name and a full statement of cause for dependency in each case.)

6. Of my dependents, only the following are receiving a part of their support from persons other than myself. (Give name of dependent, name and address of other person or agency contributing to his support, and amount so contributed in cash or other things of value by such other person or agency during the last 12 months.)

Series VII.—DEPENDENCY (Confidential except as to names and addresses of claimed dependents.)—Continued

7. Of the amounts contributed by me to dependents listed above only \$..... contributed to
(If none, write none)
....., was in payment for my own board and/or lodging.
(Name of dependent)
8. The income I earned from my work in my business occupation or employment during the past 12 months was \$ 960
9. My income from all other sources during the past 12 months was \$ none
10. The following is a list of all property owned by (or held in trust for) either me or my dependents, the value of such property and the net income received by either me or my dependents from such property during the past 12 months: (List this information separately as to the registrant and each dependent. Do not include clothing personal effects or household furnishings; or cash less than \$500. Indicate which of such property is your home.)

| Name of person | Type of property | Value after deducting encumbrances | Net income from such property |
|----------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
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| | | | |

11. I do rent the house in which I live. If so, the monthly rent is \$ 33- and the name and address of
(Do, do not) Mr. Feinthal 270 W. 100th St N.Y.C.
my landlord is

12. Other facts which I consider necessary to present fairly my own status and that of my dependents as a basis for my proper classification are: (If none, write "None.") Impossible to maintain my home without my salary - I need up \$300 per my savings last year.

INSTRUCTIONS.—With respect to any dependent (other than the registrant's own wife, child, parent, or grandparent) whose support the registrant has assumed, attach to this page a statement explaining why and under what circumstances the registrant assumed such person's support. Such statement will then become a part of this Questionnaire.

SUPPORTING AFFIDAVIT OF DEPENDENTS OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE

INSTRUCTIONS.—If convenient, each dependent over 18 years of age except the registrant's wife shall swear to (or affirm) the following affidavit. The registrant shall furnish the Local Board a separate affidavit from each such dependent who does not sign the affidavit below. Blanks for this purpose will be supplied by the Local Board on request.

STATE OF _____ COUNTY OF _____

We the undersigned do solemnly swear (or affirm) each for himself and herself individually, that we have read or had read to us the foregoing statements under the heading "DEPENDENCY", that we understand the same, that we are named as dependents; that the statements contained therein as to the name, age, residence, relationship, and dependency of each of us toward said registrant, and the statements of his contributions and the contributions by other persons to the support of each of us and the statements of the financial and material condition of each of us, and of the income of each of us from all sources, are true.

(Signature of dependent)

(Signature of dependent)

(Signature of dependent)

(Signature of dependent)

(Signature of dependent)

(Signature of dependent)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 19____.

(Signature of officer)

(Designation of officer)

Series VIII.—MINISTER, OR STUDENT PREPARING FOR THE MINISTRY

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant who is a minister or a student preparing for the ministry shall fill in the statements in this series that apply to him.

1. (a) I a minister of religion. (Am, am not)
(b) I customarily serve as a minister. (Do, do not)
(c) I have been a minister of the since
(Name of sect or denomination) (Month, day, year)
(d) I been formally ordained. If so, my ordination was performed on
(Have, have not) (Month, day, year)
by at
(Ecclesiastical official performing the ordination) (City and State)

Series VIII.—MINISTER, OR STUDENT PREPARING FOR THE MINISTRY.—Continued

3. I am a student preparing for the ministry in a theological or divinity school.

(Am, am not)

4. I am attending the _____, which was established _____

(Name of theological or divinity school)

(Before, after)

September 16, 1939, and is located at _____

(Place)

Series IX.—CITIZENSHIP

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant shall fill in the statements numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4 in this series.

1. I was born at N.Y.C. N.Y. Manhattan

(Town)

(State)

(Country)

2. I was born on November

(Month)

5

(Day)

1915

(Year)

3. My race is: ☒ White; ☐ Negro; ☐ Oriental; ☐ Indian; ☐ Filipino; Other (specify) _____

4. I am a citizen of the United States.

(Am, am not)

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant who is not a citizen of the United States shall fill in the statements numbered 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

5. I _____ a citizen or subject of _____

(Am, was last)

(Name of country)

6. My permanent residence has been in the United States since _____

(Month)

(Day)

(Year)

7. I _____ filed a declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States (first papers). Declaration

(Have, have not)

filed at _____

(Place)

on _____

(Month)

(Day)

(Year)

under No. _____

8. I _____ filed a petition for naturalization (second papers). Petition filed at _____

(Have, have not)

(Place)

on _____

(Month)

(Day)

(Year)

9. I _____ registered with the Alien Registration Division, United States Department of Justice, under the

(Have, have not)

Alien Registration Act of 1940. Registration receipt card number, if received _____

Series X.—CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION TO WAR

INSTRUCTIONS.—Only registrants who are conscientiously opposed to combatant or noncombatant military service by reason of their religious training and belief shall fill in this series, and shall obtain from the Local Board a special form on which to give substantiating evidence of conscientious objection. The Local Board will determine whether the registrant shall be classed as a conscientious objector on the basis of the claim made and the information contained in the special form.

1. By reason of religious training and belief, I am conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form and therefore claim exemption from combatant training and service _____ ☐

2. I am also, by reason of religious training and belief, conscientiously opposed to participation in noncombatant service and request, in the event I am found to be conscientiously opposed thereto by my Local Board, that, in lieu of my induction into the land or naval forces of the United States, I be assigned to work of national importance under civilian direction, and I agree to perform such work and conform to all rules and directions made and given with reference thereto by the President of the United States or by such person as he may designate or appoint for such purpose pursuant to such rules and regulations as he may prescribe _____ ☐

Series XI.—COURT RECORD (Confidential)

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant shall fill in statement Number 1.

1. I have not been convicted of treason or a felony.

(Have, have not)

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant who has ever been convicted of such an offense shall fill in the statements numbered 2, 3, and 4.

2. The offense was _____

3. The approximate date of conviction was _____

(Month)

(Day)

(Year)

4. The name and location of the court was _____

(Name)

(Address)

Series XII.—MILITARY SERVICE (Confidential)

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant who now is or has been a member of the armed forces of the United States shall fill in the statements in this series. (Use a separate line for each term of service.)

My military service has been as follows:

| ARM OF SERVICE (Army, Navy, National Guard, etc.) | DATE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE (Month, Day, Year) | STILL IN SERVICE (Yes, No) | DATE OF DISCHARGE (Month, Day, Year) | TYPE OF DISCHARGE (Honorable, Dishonorable, Bad conduct, Not honorable, Undesirable, or Other—Specify) |
|--|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Series XIII.—STUDENTS, PRESENT MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES, CERTAIN OFFICIALS, ETC.

INSTRUCTIONS.—Every registrant who is a member of one or more of the groups named in this series shall check the appropriate item or items, and shall supply any further information called for under the item or items checked.

I am at present:

☐ A college or university student, having entered upon attendance for the academic year 1940-1941 at _____ (Name of college or university) On _____ (Month) _____ (Day), 1940. This college or university is located at _____ (Place) I am pursuing a course of study involving _____ (Number) hours attendance per week leading to the _____ (Name of degree or certificate) I _____ (Do, do not) request that if I am selected for training and service, my induction be postponed until the end of the present academic year, which ends on _____ (Month) _____ (Day), 1941.

☐ A commissioned officer, warrant officer, pay clerk, or enlisted man of the Regular Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Public Health Service, the federally recognized active National Guard, the Officers' Reserve Corps, the Regular Army Reserve, the Enlisted Reserve Corps, the Naval Reserve, or the Marine Corps Reserve; my rank or commission is _____ in the _____ (Name of service)

☐ A cadet, United States Military Academy; midshipman, United States Naval Academy; cadet, United States Coast Guard Academy; man who has been accepted for admittance (commencing with the academic year next succeeding such acceptance) to the United States Military Academy as cadet, to the United States Naval Academy as midshipman, or to the United States Coast Guard Academy as cadet, and whose acceptance is still in effect; cadet of the advanced course, senior division, Reserve Officers' Training Corps or Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps; I am _____ (A cadet, midshipman, or accepted for admittance) in _____ (Name of corps, academy, etc.)

☐ The Governor of a State or Territory, a member of a legislative body of the United States or of a State or Territory, a judge of a court of record of the United States or of a State or Territory or the District of Columbia; my office is _____

REGISTRANT'S STATEMENT REGARDING CLASSIFICATION

INSTRUCTIONS.—It is optional with registrant whether or not he fills in this statement, and failure to answer shall not constitute a waiver of claim to deferred or other status. The local board is charged by law to determine the classification of the registrant on the basis of the facts before it, which should be taken fully into consideration regardless of whether or not this statement is filled in.

In view of the facts set forth in this Questionnaire it is my opinion that my classification should be Class III (See Instructions, page 1)

The registrant may write in the space below or attach to this page any statement which he believes should be brought to the attention of the Local Board in determining his classification.

It would be impossible for my wife to support herself and meet the expenses of our home on the \$15 per week which she earns - without my contributing salary.

REGISTRANT'S AFFIDAVIT

INSTRUCTIONS.—1. Every registrant shall make the registrant's affidavit. 2. If the registrant cannot read, the questions and his answers thereto shall be read to him by the officer who administers the oath.

STATE OF New York COUNTY OF Kings, ss:

I, Leon Nelson, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the registrant named and described in the foregoing statements in this Questionnaire; that I have read (or have had read to me) the statements made by and about me, and that each and every such statement is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Registrant sign here ☒

Leon Nelson
(Signature or mark of registrant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of March, 1941.

Jeanne Bliss
(Signature of officer)
Queen of Seeds, City of New York
(Designation of officer)

If the registrant has received assistance from an advisor, the latter will sign the following statement:
I have assisted the registrant herein named in the preparation of this Questionnaire.

Advisor.

DATE OF MAIL 8-12-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHIRE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 AUG 21 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-✓

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

DATE OF MAIL 8-12-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 AUG 21 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142,323-66

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323) (RM)

DATE: 8/18/53

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (100-10807)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, Was. Leon Bliss,
"Joe", "Nellie".
IS-C

NEW YORK origin.

Rerep of SA JAMES J. GAFFNEY at Cleveland dated 7/10/53.

WILLIAM S. CLARKE, Chief Clerk, Ohio Selective Service Headquarters, 40 South Third Street, Columbus, Ohio, advised that he could locate no record of a 1940 Selective Service file on the subject.

RUC.

CC: NEW YORK (100-64755) (RM)

AGT:BLC

RECORDED - 61

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 8-21-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 SEP 4 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-68

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

File No.: 146-1-5

Name: LEOI

100-1423

Office of Origin: New York

Address: Unknown

Card Filed

Born (Country & Date): US, 11/5/15

If Naturalized

Occupation: CP Organizer

(a) Year :

Employer: Communist Party, USA.

(b) Prior Nationality:

If Alien, Nationality:

Last Report Reviewed: 5-15-53 (S)

Last Activity:

Organizations:

Activities:

BUREAU ADDENDUM:

Enclosure to memorandum dated
8/3/53, from the AAG in Charge
of the Criminal Division proving the
name of captioned individual for inclusion
in the Security Index. Approval appears in
100-398030-48.

RECORDED - 94

EX-126

100-142323-69

Remarks:

Standards Applicable (Circle): IA, IBa, IBb, IBc, IBd, IBe, II, III.

Processed by:

Date:

Positive ☐ Negative ☐

Reviewed by :

Date:

Positive ☐ Negative ☐

52 SEP 8 1953

FBI Notified:

(Date)

(Initials)

DeLoach

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 8-21-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 57 SEP 8 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-✓

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

7504

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICELaboratory Work SheetRecorded
9-10-53
ctw

No Lab File

Re: LEON NELSON, was.
IS-CFile # 100-142323 - 71
Lab. # D-172110 BE

Examination requested by: SAC, New York 100-63755

Date of reference communication: 9-4-53

Date received: 9-8-53

Examination requested: Doc.

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Dahlgren

SEP 14 1953

5221

Specimens submitted for examinationQ1 Note hw in ink and pencil on a/loose-leaf ruled paper,
obtained from the former apartment of MORRIS PALANSKY.

RETURN EVIDENCE

1 ENCL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)
 FROM : Attn: FBI Laboratory
 SAC, New York (100-63755)
 SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
 IS-C

DATE: SEP 4 1953

172110

Enclosed is a note written on a loose-leaf sheet of paper, obtained from the former apartment of MORRIS PALANSKY (Bufile 100-398392)

The pencil notations may have been written by PALANSKY. It is possible that the ink notations were made by either JOHN LAVIN, was (Bufile 100-16660), or LEON NELSON, was (Bufile 100-142323). — 6 5

It is requested that the handwriting on this enclosure be compared with the handwriting of LEON NELSON and JOHN LAVIN. It is requested that this enclosure be returned to the NYO.

Enc. (1)

~~EXPEDITE PROCESSING~~

- NY 100-324465 (LAVIN)
- NY 100-82975 (PALANSKI)

COPY AND RETURNED IN LAF
 FOR LAB. ACTION AND REPORT

9/9/53
 fmd

ENCL

JJK:JTD

RECORDED-38

EX-103

SEP 8 1953

RECEIVED

100-142323-171
 8
 SEP 8 1953
 INT 100-142323-171

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7-2

Laboratory Work Sheet

Recorded
9-10-53
ctw

No Lab File

Re: LEON NELSON, was.
IS-C

File # 100-142323-7/
Lab. # D-172110 BE

Examination requested by: SAC, New York 100-63755

Date of reference communication: 9-4-53

Date received: 9-8-53

Examination requested: Doc.

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Dahlgren 9/16/53

No ident Hw. Q1 with Leon Nelson (100-142323-65)
No concl. ink Hw. Q1 with John Max Levine or John
Lavin (100-16660 serials 24+25) because of variation.
Similarities also present.

Specimens submitted for examination

sheet of

Q1 Note hw in ink and pencil on a/loose-leaf ruled paper,
obtained from the former apartment of MORRIS PALANSKY.

No Hw. of Morris Palansky located in
Bufile 100-398399

RETURN EVIDENCE

100-398399
100-16660

Jale B. B.
9-18-53
H20: mms

OK (peral Hms)

Have a person who moved
for the Demo Boof

I want her to is capt
Monroe if wanting

(with Hms)

That is in the new Money make
Director. Bo's Region I ~~not~~
want see you Edie section
regular

Leon Nelson (serial 65)

for you metal work we are

John Max Levine was John Lavin serial (24/27) (100-16660)
United Organization

of in Services

Dear Hts B it's M request
the

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

To: SAC, New York

September 18, 1953

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on September 8, 1953.

Re: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO.

FBI FILE NO.

RECORDED-27

100-63755
100-142323 - 71
D-172110 BE

Examination requested by: Addressee

Reference: Letter dated 9-4-53

Examination requested: Document

Specimens:

Q1 Note handwritten in ink and pencil on a sheet of loose-leaf ruled paper, obtained from the former apartment of MORRIS PALANSKY.

Results of Examination:

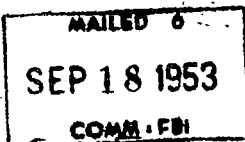
It was concluded that none of the handwriting on specimen Q1 was written by LEON NELSON whose known handwriting has previously been submitted in connection with this case for addition to the Communist Key Figure Handwriting File.

A definite conclusion could not be reached whether the handwriting in ink on Q1 was written by JOHN MAX LEVINE, wa JOHN LAVIN, Bureau File 100-16660, because of variations which could not be accounted for on the basis of the available known writing. However, from such comparison as could be made, a number of handwriting characteristics were found in the questioned writing in ink on Q1 which also occur in the available known writing of JOHN MAX LEVINE. In view of these characteristics, it is suggested that additional writing known to have been prepared by JOHN MAX LEVINE within the last two or three years be submitted for further comparison.

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

The Bureau File for MORRIS PALANSKY, Bureau File 100-398399, does not reflect that any handwriting specimens of this individual

ENCLOSURE - REGISTERED MAIL



Continued next page

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN
100-16660
100-398399

52 SEP 28 1953
HLD:vws

have been submitted to the Bureau. It is therefore suggested that handwriting specimens of MORRIS PALANSKY be submitted for further comparisons.

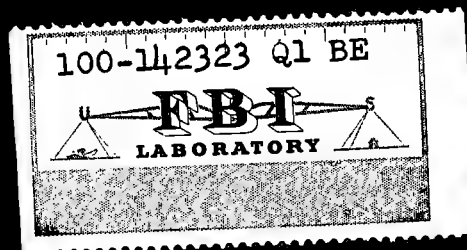
Q1 is returned herewith. Photographs are retained.

D-172110 BE
Page 2

Have a person who
moved near Monroe H.S.
(think it's Parker's Region)
who as a relation with Demo
Capt. for Wash. She
is waiting for direction
+ I want to know if
we should transfer her
+ if Bob can take her
name tonight.

That is in the new
Parker's Region, Give it
three regular channels, to
Money and make a note
with it to the County
Ment. Director

She is not in Bob's Region
I want to see you about
Eddie's section



127.5

Office Memo. 2 • UNITED S

ERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 9/24/53

LVB FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS - C

Remylet 7/14/53.

Confidential Informants [] and [] have advised that they have received no current information as to the activities of subject. [] has advised that so far as he knows subject continues in his position as Bronx County CP Organizer.

[] has previously advised that MORRIS PALANSKY (Bufile 100-398399) is a Regional Organizer in the Bronx, NY and is a likely contact of NELSON. Investigation in this connection has determined that NELSON has been observed visiting PALANSKY at his residence during the past year. During the past month it was determined that the PALANSKY family had left their residence, apparently for an extended vacation, beginning in the middle of July, 1953. An anonymous source which had access to the PALANSKY apartment on 8/20/53 advised that most of the clothing and light household equipment had been moved from the apartment. This source furnished a note which indicated that PALANSKY was probably operating on a level higher than a Section Organizer, but lower than a county level.

On 8/27/53 NELSON was observed, by the superintendent of PALANSKY's apartment house, to enter PALANSKY's apartment. On 8/28/53 PALANSKY returned to his residence and moved the remainder of his household goods.

It is noted that [] advised that EUGENE L. PERLSTEIN (formerly a contact of NELSON) was no longer active in Bronx Co. Informant advised that PERLSTEIN has now been assigned to another location.

In connection with the HARBARY investigation the following, concerning subject, has been determined:

On 4/6/53, a black two door Chevrolet sedan, bearing NY license XB346 (registered to SIDNEY STAVITZ, 1680 Vyse Ave., Bronx, NY) arrived at ELLMAN's farm, Walden, NY. This farm is used as a vacation spot by certain CP Underground leaders. Occupants of

RECORDED 51
INDEXED 51

JJK:BA

COPIES DESTROYED

Letter to Director
NY 100-63755

this auto have been identified as LEON NELSON, wife and two children. Also visiting at this farm were NORMAN ROSS and family, MIKE DAVIDOW and family and JOSEPH JOHNSTONE and family. ROSS and DAVIDOW are CP leaders and JOHNSTONE is a subject of the HARBARY case. *N.Y.*

The New York Office is continuing its investigation to locate NELSON.

DATE OF MAIL 9-22-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 OCT 1 1953FILE NUMBER 100-142323-73

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

DATE OF MAIL 11-24-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY 59 DEC 30 1953

FILE NUMBER 100-142323-74

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)
FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)
SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS - C

DATE: 12/21/53

Remylet 9/24/53.

Confidential informant [] has advised that subject continues as CP organizer for Bronx County, NY. This informant does not know the residence of the subject.

[] and [] who are both familiar with CP activity in the Bronx have failed to report any activity of the subject.

Relet set forth information concerning a note found in the apartment of MORRIS POLANSKY, a former regional organizer in the Bronx. The FBI Laboratory has reported that handwriting on this note contained a number of characteristics which occur in the writing of JOHN MAX LEVINE. LEVINE was identified by [] as the CP organizational secretary for the Bronx County CP. Handwriting on this note was also compared with the handwriting of subject, without any identification being effected.

Investigation to date has failed to locate POLANSKY, since he moved from his apartment on August 28, 1953.

On 10/2/53, [] advised that ROBERT FRIEDMAN, a Bronx County CP member, told them that a person named "HAROLD" sees the subject all the time. Investigation has failed to identify "HAROLD", however, on 11/23/53 informant advised that "HAROLD" was no longer in contact with NELSON. Informant stated that SARA LENLEY, a former NYC school teacher and CP member, told him that she is a courier for subject. Informant further learned that in order to get in touch with LENLEY, HARRY and EMILY SCHREIBSTEIN, Bronx County CP members, should first be contacted to arrange for the meeting.

Investigation to locate subject through SARA LENLEY and the SCHREIBSTEINS is being conducted.

Fisurs to locate subject through EUGENE PERLSTEIN, who, according to [] is presently a CP regional organizer in the Bronx, have been conducted. These fisurs have met with negative results.

RECORDED-30

INDEXED-30

JJK:PJM

DEC 28 1953

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 12-21-53

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE [REDACTED] FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

FILE NUMBER 100-142,323-76

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL

1-5-54

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHREY TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE

FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

59 MAR 5 1954

FILE NUMBER

100-142,323-77

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

W SAC, New York (100-107132)

February 5, 1954

Director, FBI (62-95804)

MURKIN

Reurlet January 28, 1954, requesting that the fingerprints of Leon Nelson, David Greenberg, Morton Stavis, and Calvin Benham Baldwin be compared with the latent impressions developed with unsub, wa. John Hamilton "John" "Bud."

Fingerprints of Leon Nelson, FBI #330526B, David Greenberg, FBI #3074849, and Morton Stavis compared with all latent impressions previously developed instant case, including those submitted by El Paso Division October 11, 1951, with negative results. No fingerprints could be located in the Bureau's files for Calvin Benham Baldwin.

cc: 1 - Assistant Director E. J. Connelley at New York
2 - Albany
2 - El Paso (100-5117)
2 - Houston (100-8563)

100-3-98
100-142323
100-178287
100-13661
101-5243

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gearty _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

ABC:ps
62-95804

36

100-142323
NOT RECORDED
89 FEB 11 1954

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
FEB 5 1954
MAILED

62-95804-2507

Office Memorandum • UNIT

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)
FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)
SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

DATE: 2/11/54

Remylet 12/21/53.

[] advised on 11/20/53 that "HAROLD", who he identified as a courier for the subject, is no longer acting in that capacity.

Informant related that SARA LENLEY, a former NYC school teacher and once Bronx County CP Membership Secretary, is now a courier for subject using the name of "MARY".

Numerous fisurs of LENLEY have been conducted during Jan. and Feb. 1954. On 1/22/54 LENLEY was observed to take two pieces of luggage to a garage wherein her car is parked. She drove out of the garage and continued for about a mile in distance and then returned to the garage, leaving her car. Inquiry at the garage revealed that LENLEY had trouble with the generator on the car. She made arrangements to have it fixed, and stated she would return for it. At 5:10 PM on this same date LENLEY, accompanied by an unidentified man, picked up the car. This unidentified man drove the car, however a continued fisur was not possible.

On 2/3/54 this office was notified that LENLEY had returned her car the evening of 2/2/54.

On 2/4/54 an anonymous source advised that there was nothing in LENLEY'S automobile to indicate where she had been since 1/22/54. It was determined that during the two weeks LENLEY had been away her speedometer had registered only 333 miles.

INDEXED 47
RECORDED-49

12 FEB 18 1954

JJJ:EJM

2 FEB 19 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 2/12/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, wa
IS-C

Card U.T.D.

2-2 5-57 apr

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) Veteran World War IITAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB X RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

NOT RECORDED

17 FEB 15 1954

RM

JJK:MXW

7348
FEB 25 1954

INT SEC

Adel Comgard

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ETM

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 3/8/54 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/15/53 - 3/1/54 | JOHN J. KEARNEY |
| TITLE <u>CHANGED</u> : LEON NELSON, was Leonard Niles | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject identified as Bronx County CP Organizer operating in the CP underground.

- P -

DETAILS:

The title of this report is being marked changed to reflect the additional alias of LEONARD NILES, which is reflected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Identification Record and the records of the New York City Police Department.

IDENTIFICATION RECORD AND ARREST RECORD

The following is the identification record on the subject under FBI number 330 526 B:

| CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS | NAME AND NUMBER | ARRESTED OR RECEIVED | CHARGE | DISPOSITION |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|
| City Mag Crt | Leonard Niles ? | 8-21-35 | D.C. Annoy | SS |
| NY NY | #249971 | | | |
| Army | Leon Nelson | 4-30-42 | | |
| | #35 378 771 | Akron Ohio | | |

AGENCY

REQ. REC'D

DATE FORW.

HOW FORW.

BY

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

5 - Bureau (100-142323)(RM)

5.8 MAR 25 1954
3 - New York (100-63755)

COPY IN FILE

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-56255-2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

The records of the New York City Police Department reflect that LEONARD NILES, number 249971, was arrested on August 21, 1935, for disorderly conduct (causing a crowd to collect at 86th Street between Bay 19 and 20 Street, Brooklyn). On August 21, 1935, he was given a suspended sentence, Adolescent Court, Brooklyn, New York. The complainant was Patrolman A. SMITH, Shield 4902, 62nd Precinct. The address of NILES was listed as 23 Terrace Place.

FORMER COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITY

JOHN LAUTNER, former Chairman of Review Commission, Communist Party, New York, who was expelled from the Communist Party in January 1950, advised that MAY MILLER, a New York State Communist Party functionary in 1949 gave him a list consisting of names and telephone numbers of the staff of the New York State office of the Communist Party for the years 1948 and 1949. On this list, under Kings County functionaries, appeared the name of LEON NELSON, telephone NI 5-1682.

CURRENT COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITY

T-1, of known reliability, advised from May 1953 to February 1954 that subject continues as Bronx County Communist Party Organizer operating in the Communist Party underground.

CONTACTS

MORRIS PALANSKY

T-1 has identified PALANSKY as a Foreign Section Organizer in the Bronx and a qualified Communist Party member who could assume a position of leadership in the Communist Party.

On July 10, 1953, JULIO GONZALES, Superintendent at 740 Cauldwell Avenue, Bronx, New York, the residence of PALANSKY, observed a photograph of NELSON. He advised that he had seen NELSON visit 740 Cauldwell Avenue on several occasions.

- P -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 2 -

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGEINFORMANTS

| <u>IDENTITY OF INFORMANT</u> | <u>DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION</u> | <u>DATE RECEIVED</u> | <u>AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED</u> | <u>FILE NO. WHERE INFORMATION LOCATED</u> |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| T-1 [REDACTED] | 5/5/53 2/4/54 | 5/5/53 2/4/54 | | |

MISCELLANEOUS

The following is set forth on the administrative page inasmuch as subject has not been positively identified as the unknown subject in the following surveillance:

In the course of investigation to locate and determine the activities of certain members of the Communist Party underground, a fisur was conducted in the vicinity of MARTIN ELLMAN'S farm in Walden, New York between April 4, 1953, and April 12, 1953. The following are the results of that fisur with regard to a car bearing New York license XB346:

April 6, 1953

At 4:15 pm, SAS THOMAS J. WALSH and WILLIAM F. HARTMAN observed a 1951 Black two door Chevrolet Sedan bearing New York 1953 license XB346 drive up to ELLMAN'S farm. This car was driven by an unidentified man. The passengers were a woman and two children. The agents noted MICHAEL DAVIDOW at ELLMAN'S farm at that time. At 6:15 PM the above car left the farm proceeding in the direction of New York on Route 208.

April 9, 1953

SAS THOMAS J. WALSH and WILLIAM F. HARTMAN noted the same car at ELLMAN'S farm at 4:50 PM. The agents noted the driver of this car was friendly with JOSEPH JOHNSTONE, NORMAN ROSS, MICHAEL DAVIDOW and members of their respective families at the farm.

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

MISCELLANEOUS CONT'D

April 11, 1953

The above car arrived at ELLMAN'S Farm at 4:52 pm and left at 6:05 pm. SAS JOHN D. GALLAGHER and RICHARD H. ASH followed this car to the liquor store in Washingtonville New York. The occupants were the driver, a woman, and two children. After leaving the liquor store this car then doubled back and went North on Route 208. The fisur was taken up by SAS DONALD M. CHAPIN and EUGENE A. FENELON. The car turned off Route 208 and made a left turn at Blooming Road. It then proceeded a quarter of a mile on this road and made another left turn and proceeded to a cabin owned by DAVID ~~BLOCH~~, who has been identified by CIA as a Communist Party member. NO LCC

April 12, 1953

SAS EUGENE A. FENELON, DONALD M. CHAPIN, JOHN J. DOERMER and FRANK W. MORRIS noted a 1949 Black Pontiac bearing NY 1953 license plates 5K9152. The occupants of this car were JOSEPH JOHNSTONE and the members of his family. It left from ELLMAN'S farm at 3:45 pm. At 4:20 pm it arrived at the cabin of DAVID BLOCH. It remained for approximately 15 minutes, at which time it left the cabin followed by the 1951 Chevrolet bearing NY license XB346. Inasmuch as the fisur was on JOHNSTONE, the Chevrolet was not followed.

A photograph of NELSON has been displayed to all agents on the fisur, described above.

SA GALLAGHER has stated that the unidentified driver of XB 346, in all likelihood, is identical with LEON NELSON.

SA GALLAGHER, who best saw the driver of car bearing license XB 346, gave the following identification of him:

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Sex | Male |
| Race | White |
| Height | 5'8" |
| Weight | 170-180 |
| Age | 35-40 |
| Complexion | Dark |
| Hair | Receding hairline, black kinky hair |
| Peculiarities | Hooked nose, eyes appeared slanted and narrow. Wore no hat or glasses. |
| Dress | Wore light blue slacks, bright red and black wool jacket, predominately red in color. |

SA GALLAGHER identified the woman occupant of the car as follows:

| | |
|--------|------------|
| Sex | Female |
| Race | White |
| Height | 5'4" |
| Age | 35 |
| Weight | 110 pounds |

Also noted as other occupants of this automobile were a girl and a boy. The girl was described as age seven to nine, and the boy as age three to five.

It is to be noted that the above description fits the last known description of LEON NELSON, and further that NELSON has a wife and two children, a girl and a boy of approximately the same ages as described by SA GALLAGHER. Therefore, in all likelihood, the unknown subject who was associating with DAVIDOW, JOHNSTONE and ROSS is identical with subject of this case.

The owner of car bearing NY license XB346 is ~~SIDNEY STAVITZ~~, who has been identified by [] as a Communist Party member. A check of the driver's licenses for New York State failed to disclose any license issued to STAVITZ. This car has been used by other members of the Communist Party underground.

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

In connection with investigation of the unidentified man, it is to be noted that an anonymous source advised that there was no important information concerning the unidentified man in the cabin of DAVID BLOCH at the time that the unidentified man was occupying this cabin.

GEORGE WOLFE, 27 Delmar Avenue, Creskill, New Jersey, has advised that he was the owner of a cabin near that of DAVID BLOCH in the vicinity of Washingtonville, New York. WOLFE advised that he had never observed the car bearing license plates XB 346 at BLOCH'S cabin, and was unable to furnish any information concerning the unidentified man.

EFFORTS TO LOCATE

The Bureau has been advised of the efforts to locate subject by letters dated July 4, 1953, September 24, 1953, December 21, 1953, and February 11, 1954.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will continue to follow the activities of SARA LENLEY, who has been identified as a courier for LEON NELSON, in an attempt to locate the subject and other contacts of the subject.

REFERENCE: Report of SA JOHN J. KEARNEY dated 5/15/53, at New York.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL

3-16-54

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE

FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

^{FILE}
59 APR 7 1954

FILE NUMBER

100-142323-80

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 3/30/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

Card U.T.D.
4-12-54
apcSUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME 02ALIASES Add: Leonard Niles

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS SE-11

RM

JJK:EMM

68 APR 15 1954

Belgh

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL

4 / 22 / 54.

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE

FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

6/22/54

FILE NUMBER

100-142323-81

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT



FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL

4/22/54.

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE

FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

51 MAY 7 1954

FILE NUMBER

100 - 142 323 - 82

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

4/22/54.

SEE FILE

FOR AUTHORITY.

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

FILE NUMBER

100-142323-85

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

DATE OF MAIL

4 / 26 / 54.

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY

FILE NUMBER

100-142323-84

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

OK

DATE OF MAIL

4 / 7 / 54.

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT

JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY _____

FILE NUMBER

100-142323-85-

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

734

April 27, 1954

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
JUNE

nae
Mr. J. J. Kelly
Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
290 Broadway
New York 7, New York

Dear Mr. Kelly:

In accordance with our agreement with the New York Telephone Company, I am attaching a letter to Mr. W. C. Hampton, operating Vice President of the New York Telephone Company, requesting leased line facilities for a surveillance on Leon Nelson. You should arrange for a representative of your office to present my letter to Mr. Hampton, in accordance with the procedure outlined in SAC Letter No. 115, dated November 6, 1944.

If for any reason you do not utilize this surveillance, the Bureau should be notified in order that its records may be maintained in a current status.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

nae
11 ENCL

JDD:nae

Enclosure

Auth: h-23-54 (JEH & AG)
FO Notified: h-26-54 (Airtel)
Comment: CP Functionary

100-142323-
NOT RECORDED
176 APR 30 1954

1027
51 MAY 4 1954

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-31567-429

April 28, 1954

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. W. G. Hampton, Operating Vice President
New York Telephone Company
140 West Street
New York, 7, New York

Dear Mr. Hampton:

In connection with investigations being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under its lawful and established jurisdiction, it is requested that you furnish to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, at the usual commercial rates, leased line facilities between the points set out hereinafter. This request is being made upon the specific authorization of the Attorney General of the United States for the purpose of obtaining information in a case involving the national security or the jeopardy of human life and conforming to the conditions of emergency in which special technical facilities are required. Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

It is requested that leased line facilities be furnished as follows:

From: 831 Gerard Avenue, Bronx, New York

To: 171 Fourth Avenue, New York City

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JED:bae

Auth: 44-23-54 (JED & AG)
FO Notified: 44-26-71 (Airtel)
Comment: CP Functionary

100-142323-

ENCLOSURE
NOT RECORDED
176 APR 30 1954

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-31567-X 29

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 4/29/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

57967

Rerep SA JOHN J. KEARNY, 3/8/54; NY.

It is noted [] has identified the subject as Bronx CP Organizer, operating in the Underground, and SARA LENLEY as courier for the subject.

Informants [] and NY-694-S were contacted on 4/19/54 by SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON with negative results as to the subject's whereabouts and activities.

[] was contacted on 4/16/54 by SA RICHARD H. BLASSER with negative results.

[] advised in March, 1954 that no pertinent toll calls were listed for SARA LENLEY, phone number ME 5-9684, during the period 7/1/53 to 3/1/54.

Mail covers placed on SARA LENLEY at 831 Gerard Avenue, Bronx, NY, have been unproductive to date.

Physical surveillances of SARA LENLEY on 4/21, 22, 23, 25/54 have been unproductive in locating the subject or other contacts of LENLEY.

Efforts are being made to establish a confidential source who will be in a position to identify some of LENLEY's contacts.

RM

ST:DWR

RECORDED

INDEXED

EX - 107

100-142323-86
APR 30 1954

52 MAY 13 1954

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 5-10-54

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUN 3 1954²⁷²FILE NUMBER 100-142323-87

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUNE 4, 1954 NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Transmit the following ^{AIR-TEL} ~~Teletype~~ message to:

BUREAU 57968

LEON NELSON, WAS, IS - C. [REDACTED] ADVISED 5/29/54

"LEON AND JEAN", BELIEVED BY INFORMANT TO BE LEON AND
JEAN NELSON, CONTACTED "MARTHA AND NORMIE", BELIEVED BY
INFORMANT TO BE MARTHA AND NORMAN ROSS. SUBJECT AND
NORMAN ROSS BOTH MISSING CP DISTRICT TWO FUNCTIONARIES.
SOURCE, LILLIAN RODRIQUES, AT NELSON'S RESIDENCE, VERIFIED
ON 6/3/54 SUBJECT'S PRESENCE AT RESIDENCE PAST TWO WEEKS AND
ADVISED "SHE HEARD SUBJECT'S HOME TO STAY."

KELLY

- ③ - BUREAU (100-142323)AMSD
1 - NY 100-96985 (CPUSA)

Mr. Belmont

TDS:EJR (#7)
100-63755

JUN 22 1954

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

Per _____

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | _____ |
| Mr. Boardman | _____ |
| Mr. Nichols | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont | _____ |
| Mr. Harbo | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr | _____ |
| Mr. Parsons | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen | _____ |
| Mr. Tamm | _____ |
| Mr. Sizoo | _____ |
| Mr. Winterrowd | _____ |
| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Mr. Holloman | _____ |
| Miss Gandy | _____ |

RECORDED - 94

RECORDED - 94
EX - 106
INDEXED - 94

JUN 5 1954

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE OF MAIL 6-10-54

HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMPHREY TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE FOR AUTHORITY.SUBJECT JUNE MAILREMOVED BY 59 JUN 23 1954FILE NUMBER 100-142323-89

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 6/15/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

Card U.T.D.

6-23-54 acc

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST
LEAGUE _____MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) ☒ Remove from "Unavailable Section"

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS ☒ 1985 East 15th StreetBrooklyn, New York ☒

NOT RECORDED

RM JUN 21 1954

29 16 1954

JDS:EMM

A. E. [signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | _____ |
| Mr. Boardman | _____ |
| Mr. Nichols | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont | _____ |
| Mr. Parsons | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen | _____ |
| Mr. Sullivan | _____ |
| Mr. Tamm | _____ |
| Mr. Winterrowd | _____ |
| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Mr. Holloman | _____ |
| Miss Gandy | _____ |

TO : Director, FBI (100-3-99)
 (Att: Assistant Director A. H. BELMONT)
 FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

DATE: 7/14/54

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: CP-USA, TOPLEV
 IS - C

LEON NELSON, was
 IS-C

57966

Re NY letter, 12/30/52 setting forth summary of the background on LEON NELSON. This letter requested Bureau permission to interview NELSON under the Toplev program.

Rebulet dated 1/27/53 advising this office that since LEON NELSON'S whereabouts were unknown at the time, he should not be considered for interview under the Toplev program. The Bureau requested that this office request authority to interview NELSON when his whereabouts are ascertained.

LEON NELSON has been missing for almost a year and a half and during his absence NELSON no doubt was connected with the CP Underground. Information was furnished by informants of this office who identified LEON NELSON as the CP leader in the Bronx County CP in 1953. During this time NELSON was using an assumed name and was living in an Underground fashion.

~~EXP. PROC~~

At the present time investigation has determined that LEON NELSON is reported to be residing at his residence, 1985 East 15th Street, apt. E5, Brooklyn, NY, with his wife and family. Apparently NELSON has returned to an open position in the CP Movement. However, his exact employment is not known at this time.

Bureau authority is requested to authorize this office to make a direct approach to LEON NELSON on the street a secure distance away from his residence under the Toplev program. Every effort will be made to develop NELSON as an informant if at all possible.

RM

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

1- []

RECORDED - 15

EX - 107

7-28

17 JUL 15 1954

EWB:MHO

SAC, New York (100-63755)

July 21, 1954

RECORDED - 15 Director, FBI (100-3-99)(100-142323)

57965

EX - 107

100-142323-10
COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
TOPLEV
INTERNAL SECURITY - CLEON NELSON, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet July 14, 1954.

Authority is granted to contact Nelson whenever feasible away from residence and any place of employment.

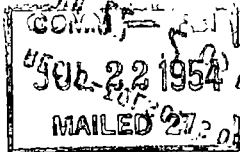
In conducting this interview you should be guided by existing Bureau instructions relating to interviews with Toplev subjects.

Advise Bureau results of contact and if it is not possible to approach the subject within 60 days, the Bureau should be furnished the reason why the contact has not been made and when you anticipate conducting the interview.

BFR:DE NOTE ON YELLOW: The New York Office by let 12/30/52 requested Bureau permission to interview Nelson under the Toplev Program. Bulet 1/27/53, advised the New York Office that inasmuch as his whereabouts was not known at that time, he should not be considered for interview under the Toplev Program. The Bureau requested that the New York Office request additional authority for such interview when his whereabouts was determined. Inasmuch as his whereabouts is presently known to the New York Office, it is recommended that authority be given for this interview.

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Trotter _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

68 AUG 3 1954



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-3-99)
Att: Asst. Dir. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: 10/28/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: CP, USA - TOPLEV
IS-C

LEON NELSON, was.
SM-C

This is to advise that numerous efforts have been made to place LEON NELSON at his residence, 1985 East 15 St., Brooklyn, NY, with negative results.

Mr. JOHN RODRIGUEZ, superintendent of the above premises and who has cooperated with this office in the past, has advised that NELSON is not regularly residing at his residence with his wife and two children. RODRIGUEZ further stated that at times a period of two weeks or more may go by without him observing NELSON visiting his family. Spot check surveillances have failed to observe NELSON in or about his residence. It is believed that NELSON may be residing at various places and not regularly staying at his residence.

NELSON is reported to be an instructor at the Jefferson School of Social Science on Tuesday evening but again spot check surveillances have failed in that NELSON was not observed entering or departing from the Jefferson School of Social Science.

In the event NELSON is not placed and his habits observed within the next 30 days in order for a Toplev contact to be had with him, the Bureau will be advised that NELSON will not receive further consideration at this time for a Toplev contact because of his unavailability.

RM

1-Bufile 100-142323

RECORDED

EX - 107

OCT 29 1954

EWB:LS

317
OCT 29 1954

EXP. PROC.

UNRECORDED

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 12-8-54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63855)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS - C

Card U.T.D.

12.17.54cc

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) Verification Pending

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS UnknownNOT RECORDED
24 DEC 9 1954REGISTERED MAIL
EJF DEC 28 1954

SAC, New York (100-63755)

January 13, 1955

Director, FBI (100-142323) - 12-

RECORDED-52

57963

LEON NELSON EX-130
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rerep SA Edward J. Flanagan, Jr., dated December 21, 1954, at New York.

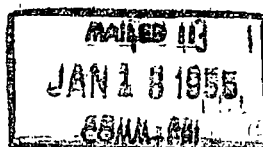
Rerep reflects that this subject has been described by [] as the Organizational Secretary of the Bronx County CP. Bureau files reflect that this same informant has also identified John Max Levine, New York file 100-34465, as holding this same post, and that he has given recent information that the position is held by a person referred to as Morris whom he believes to be identical with Levine. Bureau records reflect that Morris Palansky, New York file 100-82975, has been a Communist Party organizer in the Bronx and may be confused with these other subjects. You should recontact this informant to clarify subject's position in the Bronx County Communist Party structure.

Bureau records reflect you do not have information as to subject's present residence and employment. The "Daily Worker," an East Coast Communist newspaper, in its issue of January 5, 1955, contains an article on page three reflecting that subject will be teaching a ten-day evening course on Mondays at the Jefferson School of Social Science commencing January 17, 1955. The subject will be, "Wage Structures and the 'Runaway Shop' Movement."

Advise when you establish subject's residence and employment.

OTM:dla
(4)

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____



58 JAN 17 1955

Racted
 16-55
 10TM-2/55

57964

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

57953

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS REPORT IS LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI, AND NEITHER IT NOR ITS CONTENTS ARE TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE THE AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

COPIES DESTROYED 10/27/64

CONFIDENTIAL

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

I. BACKGROUND

Residence

T-1, of unknown reliability, but an individual who has personal knowledge of the subject, advised on June 3, 1954, that the subject had been present at his residence, apartment E-5, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, for the previous two weeks, and T-1 had heard that the subject was home to stay.

T-1 advised on June 8, 1954, that the subject was at his home, apartment E-5, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, from approximately May 16, 1954, to May 29, 1954, but T-1 had not seen the subject since that time.

T-2, of unknown reliability, but an individual who has personal knowledge of the subject, advised on October 19, 1954, that the subject was not regularly staying at his residence, apartment E-5, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York. T-2 added that at times a period of two weeks or more will go by without the subject being observed visiting his family.

T-2 advised on November 29, 1954, that the subject had been observed by T-2 on two occasions visiting his family at his residence, apartment E-5, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, once in October, 1954, and again in November, 1954. T-2 reiterated that the subject was not regularly staying in his home and was visiting his family infrequently.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)

T-3 advised on July 1, 1954, that he believed the subject was Bronx County Organizational Secretary of the CP.

T-4 advised that the subject was present at CP Headquarters, 268 Seventh Avenue, New York City on at least nine occasions during the period from June, 1954, through August, 1954. T-4 was unable to state the exact position that the subject held in the CP, but T-4 advised that it

100-142322-92

NY 100-63755

appeared the subject was beginning to frequent CP Headquarters on a fairly regular basis.

T-5 advised in May, 1954, that the subject, LEON NELSON, had attended a State Leadership School of the CP in 1935 or 1936. T-5 stated that the subject was known by the nickname "NELLIE", and T-5 believed the subject to have been employed full time with the CP and to have been previously active in the Young Communist League (YCL).

The YCL has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-5 related that the aforementioned school was held at Camp Beacon, New York, and lasted for three months. With respect to the over-all purpose of the school, T-5 stated that all instructors projected the idea that the students were being trained as leaders of the working class for the purpose of bringing about the eventual overthrow of capitalism. T-5 stated that it was made clear that the CP felt that if the overthrow of capitalism could not be accomplished by peaceful means, there might come a time when the working class would have to use force and violence. T-5 emphasized that the impression was given that the CP would initiate the use of force and violence, but that it might become necessary in resisting the capitalists who would attempt to hold power by force.

III. CONTACTS OF THE SUBJECT

T-6 advised in May, 1954, that the subject had contacted NORMAN ROSS.

T-3 advised on July 7, 1953, that NORMAN ROSS had been head of the Industrial Section of the New York County CP, and a member of the New York State Committee of the CP. T-3 stated that ROSS was then undoubtedly working in the CP Underground.

T-6 advised on May 29, 1954, that NORMAN ROSS had returned home because of illness.

NY 100-63755

T-4 has advised that information has come to his attention which indicated that the subject was in contact with the following individuals during the period from June, 1954, through August, 1954:

SAM BARON
ISIDORE BEGUN
JOSEPH BUCHOLT
GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY
SIMON W. GERSON
BERTHA STACHEL
FAY VEDRO
WILLIAM W. WEINSTONE
SELMA WEISS

T-7 advised on May 28, 1954, that ~~SAM BARON~~ was Acting National Administrative Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress (CRC). *NY*

The CRC has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

NY
~~ISIDORE BEGUN~~ was Industrial Organizer of the Bronx County CP.

NY
~~JOSEPH BUCHOLT~~ was the New York State Chairman of the Labor Youth League (LYL).

The LYL has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY is one of the CP leaders who was convicted in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on January 21, 1953, for violation of the Smith Act.

Great Throat
The "Daily Worker", an East Coast Communist newspaper, issue of September 27, 1954, page 4, column 4, identified ~~SIMON W. GERSON~~ as Legislative Chairman of the New York State CP. *NY*

MRS.
BERTHA ~~STACHEL~~ is the wife of ~~JACOB STACHEL~~, one of the CP leaders who was convicted in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on October 14, 1949, for violation of the Smith Act.

NY 100-63755

~~FAY~~ VEDRO is the wife of ~~CARL~~ VEDRO and T-10 advised on August 7, 1953, that ~~CARL~~ VEDRO, former Executive Secretary of the Kings County CP, went underground in 1951. *NY.*

WILLIAM W. WEINSTONE is one of the CP leaders who was convicted in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on January 21, 1953, for violation of the Smith Act.

T-7 advised on May 28, 1954, that ~~SELMA~~ WEISS was the New York State Executive Secretary of the CRC. *NY.*

T-11 advised in July, 1954, that the subject was known to, and had been in contact with, ~~DAVID~~ ROSENBERG, who is presently engaged in a leadership capacity in the CP Underground in the New York area.

IV. CONNECTIONS WITH CP FRONT ORGANIZATIONS

The Jefferson School of Social Science (JSSS) has been designed by the Attorney General of the United States ^{pursuant} to Executive Order 10450.

T-12 advised in September, 1954, that information had come to his attention which indicated that the subject was an instructor for the Fall term at the JSSS in a course entitled "Coalition, Politics and Electoral Problems." According to T-12, the subject was scheduled to be an instructor in the course on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

T-13 furnished on September 3, 1954, a throwaway of the JSSS, which reflected that a special course was to be held this Fall at the JSSS on "Coalition, Politics, and Electoral Problems." The subject was listed as one of the instructors for this course.

The Fall, 1954, catalog of the JSSS listed on pages 11, 12, and 17, that the subject, LEON NELSON, was an instructor in the course "Coalition, Politics, and Electoral Problems" on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

V. MISCELLANEOUS

T-3, T-7, T-8, T-10, T-14, T-15, T-16, and T-17, who are familiar with certain phases of Communist activity in the New York City area, were all contacted during the period from August, 1954, to December, 1954, and they were unable to furnish any information pertaining to the subject's present position in the CP or pertaining to any recent Communist activities on the part of the subject.

- P -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 6 -

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGEINFORMANTS

| IDENTITY OF SOURCE | DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION | DATE RECEIVED | AGENT TO WHOM INFORMATION FURNISHED | FILE NUMBER WHERE ORIGINAL INFORMATION LOCATED |
|--|--|------------------|---|--|
| T-1 Mrs. LILLIAN RODRIGUEZ, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, NY | Residence of subject | 6/3/54 | Unknown NY Agent | 100-63755-245 |
| | | 6/8/54 | SA CHARLES W. PENDERGAST | 100-63755-247 |
| T-2 JOHN RODRIGUEZ, Superintendent, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, NY | Residence of subject | 10/19/54 | SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY | Instant Report |
| | | 11/29/54 | SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY | Instant Report |
| T-3 [REDACTED] | 7/1/54 | 7/1/54 | | |
| | Documentation of NORMAN ROSS. | | | |
| | Negative | 9/9/54 | | |
| T-4 [REDACTED] | 6/8/54 | 6/8/54 | | |
| | 6/17/54 | 6/17/54 | | |
| | 6/21/54 | 6/21/54 | | |
| | 6/28/54 | 6/28/54 | | |
| | 7/2/54 | 7/2/54 | | |

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

| IDENTITY OF SOURCE | DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION | DATE RECEIVED | AGENT TO WHOM INFORMATION FURNISHED | FILE NUMBER WHERE ORIGINAL INFORMATION LOCATED |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|---|--|
| T-4 (cont'd) | 7/12/54 | 7/12/54 | | |
| | 7/13/54 | 7/13/54 | | |
| | 7/16/54 | 7/16/54 | | |
| | 8/30/54 | 8/30/54 | | |
| T-5 [REDACTED] | Subject attended a State Leadership School of the CP in 1935 or 1936 | 5/12/54 | SAS JOSEPH A. CULLEN and HERBERT P. LARSON (orally) | [REDACTED] |
| T-6 [REDACTED] | 5/29/54 | 5/29/54 | | |
| T-7 [REDACTED] | Documentation of SAM BARON and SELMA WEISS | | | |
| | Negative | 9/9/54 | SA ARTHUR P. HEALY (orally) | Instant Report |
| T-8 NY 694-S | Negative | 8/24/54 | SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON (orally) | Instant Report |
| | Negative | 12/3/54 | SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON (orally) | Instant Report |
| | Documentation of ISIDORE BEGUN | | | |
| T-9 [REDACTED] | Documentation of JOSEPH BUCHOLT | | | |

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

| IDENTITY OF SOURCE | DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION | DATE RECEIVED | AGENT TO WHOM INFORMATION FURNISHED | FILE NUMBER WHERE ORIGINAL INFORMATION LOCATED |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|---|--|
|-----------------------|--|------------------|---|--|

| | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| T-10 | Documentation of CARL VEDRO | | | |
|------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|

| | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| | Negative | 8/17/54 | SA RICHARD H. BLASSER (orally) | Instant Report |
|--|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------------|

| | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| | Negative | 11/23/54 | SA RICHARD H. BLASSER (orally) | Instant Report |
|--|----------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------|

| | | | | |
|------|------------|------------|--|--|
| T-11 | 7/22,23/54 | 7/22,23/54 | | |
|------|------------|------------|--|--|

| | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Documentation of DAVID ROSENBERG | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|

| | | | | |
|------|--|--------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| T-12 | Subject was an instructor for the Fall term at the JSSS in a course entitled "Coalition, Politics, and Electoral Problems" | 9/1/54 | SA WILLIAM P. FRIDAY (orally) | 100-63755-264 |
|------|--|--------|----------------------------------|---------------|

| | | | | |
|------|--|--------|-----------------------|------------------|
| T-13 | Furnished a throwaway of the JSSS which reflected that a special course was to be held this Fall on "Coalition, Politics, and Electoral Problems" with the subject as one of the instructors | 9/3/54 | SA RICHARD H. BLASSER | 100-51820-1a1043 |
|------|--|--------|-----------------------|------------------|

| | | | | |
|------|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| T-14 | Negative | 8/18/54 | SA RICHARD H. BLASSER (orally) | Instant Report |
|------|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------------|

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

| IDENTITY OF SOURCE | DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION | DATE RECEIVED | AGENT TO WHOM INFORMATION FURNISHED | FILE NUMBER WHERE ORIGINAL INFORMATION LOCATED |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|---|--|
| T-18 [redacted] | Negative | 8/24/54 | SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON (orally) | Instant Report |
| T-16 [redacted] | Negative | 9/9/54 | SA ARTHUR P. HEALY (orally) | Instant Report |
| T-17 [redacted] | Negative | 9/9/54 | SA ARTHUR P. HEALY (orally) | Instant Report |
| | Negative | 11/22/54 | SA MAURICE F. DANIELS (orally) | Instant Report |

MISCELLANEOUS

The subject's wife, JEANNE, is a Security Index subject of the NYO in a case entitled "JEANNE BLISS NELSON, was; SM - C," (Bufile 100-142323, NY file 100-35203.)

The subject is included on the Security Index of the NYO and an FD 122 was submitted to the Bureau, 12/8/54, reflecting that his residence is unknown.

The Bureau was advised by NY letter dated 4/29/54, of the efforts to locate the subject and by NY Airtel dated 6/4/54, that the subject had been present at his residence for the previous two weeks and reportedly was home to stay.

Prior to the subject's having returned home, the NYO conducted fisurs and spot checks on SARA LENLEY, who reportedly was a courier for the subject. These fisurs and spot checks which took place on 4/21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30; 5/11, 13, 18-20, 24, 25/54, failed to be productive in locating the subject.

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

MISCELLANEOUS (CONT'D)

Bureau authority was requested to interview the subject under the Toplev Program by NY letter dated 7/14/54, and said interview was approved by the Bureau in Bulet dated 7/21/54.

NY letter to Bureau, 10/28/54, advised that numerous efforts had been made to contact the subject under the Toplev Program with negative results.

In connection with efforts to locate the subject for interview under the Toplev Program, spot check surveillances were instituted in the vicinity of the following places and on the following dates but the subject was not observed:

1985 East 15th Street
Brooklyn, New York

July 15,22,23,26; August 25,31; September 7,20;
October,1,4,7,13,19; November 4,15,29, 1954.

CP Headquarters
268 Seventh Avenue
New York City

September 27-29; October 8,22,27, 1954.

JSSS
575 Sixth Avenue
New York City

September 23; October 15,22, 1954.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will maintain contact with confidential informants of the NYO in an effort to ascertain the subject's present CP position.

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

LEADS (CONT'D)

NEW YORK (CONT'D)

At New York, New York

Will conduct appropriate investigation to determine the subject's current residence.

Will report the results of contact with Baltimore Source 4.

Will check the records of the State of NY Bureau of Motor Vehicles, NYC, in order to determine if the subject currently has an automobile registered in his name.

Will continue to follow and report Communist activities of the subject.

REFERENCE

Report of SA JOHN J. KEARNEY, 3/8/54, New York.
New York letter to Bureau, 4/29/54.
New York Airtel to Bureau, 6/4/54.
New York letters to Bureau, 7/14/54 and 10/28/54.
New York letter to Baltimore, 11/22/54.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI. (100-3-99)
 FROM : 11/6 Att. Assistant Director A. H. Belmont
 SAC, New York (100-63755)

DATE: 1/21/55
 57962

G. I. R. -9

SUBJECT: CP, USA - TOPLEV
 IS - C
 LEON NELSON, was
 IS - C

Re New York letter dated 10/28/54, captioned as above, advising the Bureau that LEON NELSON would be interviewed under the Toplev program when his whereabouts was determined.

Reference is made to the report of SA Edward J. Flanagan dated December 21, 1954, at New York, in which report reference is made to the fact that the subject, namely LEON NELSON, has not been regularly staying at his residence, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, but has been reported to visit CP Headquarters, 268 Seventh Avenue, New York City, infrequently.

Efforts were made to locate NELSON both at his residence as well as at the CP Headquarters in an attempt to interview LEON NELSON. However, to date physical surveillances conducted at both places have failed to establish the routine of LEON NELSON, and consequently no interview with him has been conducted under the Toplev program to date. Since LEON NELSON is presently the subject of a pending investigation in this office, efforts will be made to establish his location and routine.

Please be advised that efforts to interview LEON NELSON under the Toplev program are being discontinued at this time until information is developed establishing the location and routine of LEON NELSON.

1 - NY 100-35203 (MRS. LEON NELSON)

RECORDED-31

EWB:RAA
 (5)

50 JAN 31 1955

RECEIVED

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-142323-193

CARBON COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

| | |
|------------|-------|
| Tolson | _____ |
| Boardman | _____ |
| Nichols | _____ |
| Belmont | _____ |
| Harbo | _____ |
| Mohr | _____ |
| Parsons | _____ |
| Rosen | _____ |
| Tamm | _____ |
| Nease | _____ |
| Winterrowd | _____ |
| Moore | _____ |
| Callahan | _____ |
| Gandy | _____ |

Transmit the following Teletype message to:
AIRTEL VIA AIR MAIL (REGISTERED)

FBI ALBANY

1-31-55

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC'S BUFFALO AND NEW YORK

COMMUNIST PARTY UNDERGROUND, IS-C. RE BUFFALO AIRTEL TO THE BUREAU AND SAC'S ALBANY AND NEW YORK DATED JANUARY 26, 1955, CAPTIONED IRVING GOFF, WAS., IS-C; CP UNDERGROUND, IS-C. INSTANT AIRTEL REFLECTED THAT GOFF WAS IN NEW YORK CITY FROM MONDAY, JANUARY 17 THROUGH FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1955. GOFF ATTENDED STATE BOARD MEETING ON WEDNESDAY AND GAVE A REPORT ON STEEL ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY GOFF WAS IN CONTACT WITH "NELLIE." GOFF DISCUSSED ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS WITH NELLIE AND ALSO THE INDUSTRIAL CONCENTRATION PROGRAM. GOFF SAID THAT NELLIE IS ARRANGING FOR FIVE OR SIX NEW PEOPLE FOR ROCHESTER AND APPARENTLY INTRODUCED GOFF TO A MALE INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL ARRIVE

HCJ:BAR

(16)

100-11720

1CC: BUREAU (IRVING GOFF)
BUREAU (NATE ZEPPELLO)
BUREAU (LEON NELSON)

1CC: NEW YORK 100-96985 (UNDERGROUND)
New York 100-IRVING GOFF
NEW YORK 100-63755 (LEON NELSON)

1CC: BUFFALO (100-4379-94 (UNDERGROUND))
BUFFALO 100-11903 (IRVING GOFF)
BUFFALO 100-LEON NELSON

1CC: AL 100-7575 (N. ZEPPELLO)
AL 100-12673 (IRVING GOFF)
AL 100-14260 (LEON NELSON)

FEB 8 1955

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEB 11 1955

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PAGE-TWO-


Transmit the following Teletype message to:
IN ROCHESTER IN APRIL, ALL OF THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS
OBTAINED BY [REDACTED] THIS INFORMANT ALSO INDICATED THAT
NELLIE MAY MAKE AVAILABLE TO GOFF TWO AUTOMOBILES OWNED BY THE
NEW YORK STATE CP. ON JANUARY 31, 1955, [REDACTED] MADE
AVAILABLE TO SA JOHN D. MAHONEY A NOTE WHICH HAD FORMERLY BEEN
IN POSSESSION OF IGNATIUS ZEPPETELLO, WA., NATE ZEPPETELLO. THIS
NOTE IS AS FOLLOWS: "FRIDAY. DEAR NAT: I AM VERY SORRY THAT
OUR PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS WERE DISRUPTED. WHEN WE GET A CHANCE
TO DISCUSS IT--YOU WILL UNDERSTAND--I AM SURE. WELL, WE WANT
TO PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF. COULD YOU PLEASE ARRANGE THE
FOLLOWING: I COULD COME TO YOUR HOUSE EARLY EVENING OF TUESDAY.
FEB. 1. MAYBE I COULD MEET YOUR FRIENDS THAT EVENING. ALSO,
MAYBE THE NEXT MORNING AT 8 A.M. I COULD SEE THAT FARMER WE
SPOKE ABOUT WHO WAS INTERESTED IN OUR PRODUCT. I ARRANGE IT ANY
WAY YOU WISH. BUT UNFORTUNATELY I WILL HAVE VERY LITTLE TIME
AND WILL HAVE TO LEAVE BY 10 A.M. FEB. 2. I HOPE THIS MAY BE
OF SOME HELP. I WILL TRY MY BEST. REGARDS TO ALL. LEON NELSON
(NELLIE)". IT IS APPARENT FROM THE ABOVE NOTE THAT LEON NELSON,
FORMER CP UNDERGROUND ORGANIZER OF BRONX, N.Y., WHO WAS CLOSELY
ASSOCIATED WITH JOHN MAX LEVINE, AKA JOHN LAVIN, IS PLANNING AN

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
PAGE THREE

UPSTATE FOUR he is now in Buffalo, Albany reflects that he is
ARRANGING FOR INDIVIDUALS IN THE NEW YORK AREA TO WORK IN THE
INDUSTRIAL CONCENTRATION PROGRAM, HE MAY BE CONTACTING CP
ORGANIZERS FOR THIS SPECIFIC PURPOSE. NELSON, ACCORDING TO
THE NEW YORK OFFICE, IS NOW OPERATING IN THE OPEN PARTY AND
HAS SINCE MAY, 1954. ALBANY WILL FURNISH COMPLETE COVERAGE
TO PROPOSED MEETING OF NELSON AND ZEPPETELLO ON FEBRUARY 1 AND
2, 1955 AND WILL ADVISE BUREAU, NEW YORK AND BUFFALO OF THE
RESULTS.

 FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

END

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

AIR TEL VIA AIR MAIL

FBI, ALBANY (100-11720)

2/9/55

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-94) Leon Nelson ATTENTION: FBI LAB.

CP USA, DISTRICT 2, ALBANY DIVISION, UNDERGROUND ACTIVITIES,
INTERNAL SECURITY - C. REFERENCE BUFFALO AIRTELS DATED
1/24, 25, 26 ENTITLED IRVING GOFF, WAS. IS-CAND CP UNDERGROUND,
IS-C CONCERNING THE ATTENDANCE OF SUBJECT GOFF AT STATE BOARD
MEETING AND HIS DISCUSSION OF ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS AND THE
INDUSTRIAL CONCENTRATION PROGRAM WITH NELLIE. ON 1/31/55

[REDACTED] FURNISHED AGENTS OF THE ALBANY OFFICE AT SYRACUSE,
N.Y. A NOTE THAT THE INFORMANT STATED HAD BEEN IN THE POSSESSION
OF NATE ZEPPELLO, CHAIRMAN OF THE CP, ONONDAGA COUNTY, SYRACUSE,
N.Y. ON THAT DATE. THE NOTE IS BEING SET FORTH VERBATIM:

"FRIDAY, DEAR NAT: I AM VERY SORRY THAT OUR PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS
WERE DISRUPTED. WHEN WE GET A CHANCE TO DISCUSS IT - YOU WILL

JDM:bmc
(13)

CC: BUFFALO (100-4379-94) (RM)
BUFFALO (100-11903) (IRV GOFF)
BUFFALO (100-13479) (UNSUB NELS)
NEW YORK (100-96985)
NEW YORK (100-Unsub Nellie)
ALBANY 100-11720
ALBANY 100-7575
ALBANY 100-14694
ALBANY 100-12673
[REDACTED]

100-142323-✓
NOT RECORDED
195 FEB 21 1954

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-3-94-1-88

AIR TEL VIA AIR MAIL

PAGE TWO

UNDERSTAND - I AM SURE. WELL, WE WANT TO PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF. COULD YOU PLEASE ARRANGE THE FOLLOWING: I COULD COME TO YOUR HOSE EARLY EVENING OF TUESDAY FEB. 1. MAYBE I COULD MEET YOUR FRIENDS THAT EVENING. ALSO, MAYBE THE NEXT MORNING AT 8 A.M. I COULD SEE THAT FARMER WE SPOKE ABOUT WHO WAS INTERESTED IN OUR PRODUCT. ARRANGE IT ANYWAY YOU WISH. BUT UNFORTUNATELY I WILL HAVE VERY LITTLE TIME AND WILL HAVE TO LEAVE BY 10 AM FEB. 2ND. I HOPE THIS MAY BE OF SOME HELP. I WILL TRY MY BEST. REGARDS TO ALL. LEON NELSON (NELLIE)"

ENCLOSED HEREIWTH IS THE ORIGINAL NOTE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AS FURNISHED BY THE INFORMANT. THE LAB IS REQUESTED TO COMPARE THE HANDWRITTEN NOTE WITH THE HANDWRITING IN THE NATIONAL SECURITY FILE. COPY OF THE RESULTS SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE BUFFALO AND NEW YORK OFFICES FOR THEIR INFORMATION. THE LAB IS REQUESTED TO MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE COPIES OF THIS NOTE FOR FUTURE COMPARISON. NEW YORK AND BUFFALO ARE REQUESTED TO CHECK THEIR INDICES ON THE NAME LEON NELSON (NELLIE) AS THIS INDIVIDUAL MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH THE NELLIE MENTIONED IN REFERENCED AIRTELS.

[REDACTED]

END.

FEBRUARY 17, 1955

AIR-TEL
REGISTERED

SAC, ALBANY (100-11720 - 100-7575)

142323-4
CP, USA, DISTRICT 2, ALBANY DIVISION, UNDERGROUND
ACTIVITIES, INTERNAL SECURITY - C. RE ALBANY AIR-TEL
2/9/55. NOTE SIGNED "LEON NELSON (NELLIE)" SUBMITTED
WITH REAIR-TEL DESIGNATED IN LABORATORY AS Q17. CONCLUDED
HANDWRITING ON Q17 WRITTEN BY LEON NELSON, SUBJECT OF
BUREAU FILE 100-142323 AND NEW YORK FILE 100-63755. Q17
RETURNED HERewith. PHOTOGRAPHS RETAINED. RUC.

ENCLOSURE (1)

HOOVER

100-3-94

2 - BUFFALO (100-4379-94 - 100-11903)
2 - NEW YORK (100-96985 - 100-63755)

HLD:jsb
(10)

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-3-94-1-88

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

62 FEB 28 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 2/28/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

30500

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

Rerep SA EDWARD J. FLANAGAN, JR., NY, 12/21/54.

ReBulet to NY, 1/13/55.

Re Buffalo airtel to Bureau and SAC's Albany and NY, 1/26/55, entitled, "IRVING GOFF, was; IS-C; CP UNDERGROUND; IS-C."

Re Albany airtel to Bureau and SAC's Buffalo and NY, 1/31/55, entitled, CP UNDERGROUND; IS-C."

Re Albany airtel to Bureau, 2/9/55, entitled, "CP, USA, DISTRICT 2, ALBANY DIVISION, UNDERGROUND ACTIVITIES; IS-C."

ReBuairtel to Albany, 2/17/55, entitled, "CP, USA, DISTRICT 2, ALBANY DIVISION, UNDERGROUND ACTIVITIES; IS-C."

The subject is an SI subject and a key figure of the NYO whose present employment and residence are unknown. The data appearing on the SI card of the subject is current.

Rerep set out information on pages one and two which reflected that [] had advised on 7/1/54 that he believed the subject was Bronx County Organizational Secretary of the CP. However, rerep reflected on page six that [] was recontacted on 9/9/54 at which time this informant was unable to furnish any information pertaining to the subject's present position in the CP or pertaining to any recent Communist activities on the part of the subject.

[] was again contacted on 12/10/54 and 1/28/55 at which time he was unable to supply any information pertaining to the subject's CP activities.

It is pointed out that from April, 1953, to February, 1954, [] identified the subject as Bronx County CP Organizer operating in the CP underground.

In May, 1954, the subject left the CP underground and returned home for a period of time, but he is not regularly staying there.

(RM)

2-Albany (100-14260) (RM)

2-Buffalo (100- LEON NELSON) (RM)

EJF:PEC

RECORDED - 88

INDEXED-88

MAR 2 1955

INT SEC

MAR 9 1955

30501

Letter to Director
NY 100-63755

[] has been unable to furnish any specific information concerning the subject since the subject left the CP underground.

[] has furnished information which indicates that the subject has been at CP Headquarters, NYC, on a fairly frequent basis but to date the NYO has been unable to determine ^{his} the exact position in the open Party.

The subject is known to have been an instructor at the Jefferson School of Social Science during the fall 1954, and winter 1955 terms.

[] advised on 1/28/55 that the subject's wages were last reported for the quarter ending September, 1951, by the Kings County Committee of the CP.

NY 694-S advised on 1/19/55 as to having received information that as of 1/15/55 IRVING GOFF was officially out of the CP underground. According to the information received by NY 694-S GOFF was cleared through "NELLIE," of the State Headquarters and sent by "NELLIE" for processing. Re Buffalo airtel indicated [] has furnished information that IRVING GOFF was in NYC from January 17, through January 21, 1955, and on 1/20/55 was in contact with "NELLIE" during which time they discussed organizational problems and the industrial concentration program. According to [] "NELLIE" was arranging for five or six new people for Rochester.

Referenced Albany airtels indicated that [] furnished information on 1/31/55 which reflected that LEON NELSON (NELLIE) was apparently planning an upstate tour on 2/1 and 2/2/55 in which he was going to meet with NATE ZEPPELLO, chairman of the CP, Onondaga County, Syracuse, NY. This information was contained in a note which had been in the possession of NATE ZEPPELLO and was signed LEON NELSON (NELLIE).

ReBuairtel advised that the FBI Laboratory had concluded that the aforementioned note had been written by the subject.

The Buffalo and Albany Divisions are requested to contact appropriate security informants in an effort to

30502

Letter to Director
NY 100-63755

develop information which would reflect the subject's present position in the CP.

Efforts are being continued by the NYO to ascertain the subject's current employment and residence and the Bureau will be immediately notified when these have been determined.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 5/31/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

ReSAClet 55-30, 4/12/55.

Card U.I.D.
10/26/55SUCCINCT RESUME OF CASE:

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on 8/19/53 that subject was then Bronx County CP organizer, operating in the CP Underground. Admissable.

[redacted] who was in a position to furnish reliable information, has advised of the presence of LEON NELSON at NY State CP Headquarters, 268 Seventh Avenue, NYC, periodically from June 1954 through April 1955. Not admissable.

CG 5824-S, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on 3/3/55, that one "NELLY", phonetic, attended a meeting of the National Administrative Committee of the CP on that date. CG 5824-S described "NELLY" as the open secretary of the NY District of the CP. A photograph of the subject was exhibited to CG 5824-S on 5/5/55 and informant positively identified LEON NELSON as person he had referred to as "NELLY". Admissable.

RECOMMENDATION:

Retain in SI. Subject described as Bronx County CP organizer, 1953 and open secretary NY District CP in March 1955.

DETCOM TABBING:

1. Detcom
2. Security index cards bearing the stamp "Detcom" in large red letters have not been received from the Bureau.
3. Recommend subject be continued in Detcom classification in view of his position as open secretary of the NY District CP. Key Figure, NYO.

DETCOM

SE 40

RM

RECORDED-38

WMD:PDD

JUN 2 1955

JUN 9 1955

EX-124

EX-124

Alders

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 6/1/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB Delete RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

NOT RECORDED

11 JUN 3 1955

RM

JUN 17 1955

WMD:KM

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 6/21/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

Card U.T.D. 7/8/55

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME 03 04ALIASES ADD: "NELLIE", "NELLY"

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) DETCOMTAB FOR DETCOM 7 TAB FOR COMSAB DELETE RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Organizational Secretary, New York District of Communist Party, 2nd Floor,
268 7th Avenue, New York, New York

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

REGISTERED MAIL

WMD:MYW

63 JUL 15 1955

NOT RECORDED
22 JUL 22 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

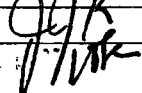
| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 6/30/55 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/15,22;5/5,12,19,23,24,31; 6/7,13,14/55 | REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM M. DREW, JR. mbm |
| TITLE CHANGED LEON NELSON, was: "Nellie", "Nelly" | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject employed as Organizational Secretary, New York District of Communist Party, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York. Residence unknown. T-2 advised subject attended meeting National Administrative Committee, CP, 3/3/55, NYC, and that subject on sub-committee to prepare resume of discussions and proposals re National Communist Party meeting on organization, NYC, 4/55. T-2 described subject as organizational Secretary, New York District of CP. T-5 advised subject employed by Kings County Committee CP, Brooklyn, NY, 1951. T-3 and T-4 furnished contacts of LEON NELSON at CP headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, NYC, 9/54 through 5/55. 1955 Winter Catalogue JSSS reflects LEON NELSON as instructor.

- P -

AGENCY Kah
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 7-13-55
HOW FORW. 175
BY atm

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT 4 - Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3 - New York (100-63755) | | 100-11-98 | RECORDED - 63 |
| | | JUL 5 1955 | INDEXED - 63 |
| | | INT SEC | 121-X7 |

66 JUL 13 1955

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953-59255-X

G.I.R.-10

NY 100-63755

DETAILS:

The title of this report has been marked "Changed" to reflect the addition of the aliases "Nellie" and "Nelly". It is noted that T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on May 5, 1955, identified a photograph of the subject as the individual known to him by the above mentioned names.

I. BACKGROUND

Residence

The current residence of the subject is unknown. It is to be noted, however, that the 1955-1956 issue of the telephone directory of the New York Telephone Company for the Borough of Brooklyn, reflects a listing for LEON NELSON, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

On May 24, 1955, SYLVESTER SHAW, superintendent, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, was contacted by SA WILLIAM M. DREW, JR. MR. SHAW advised that Mrs. LEON NELSON was then residing in apartment 5-E, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, with her daughter. A photograph of subject was exhibited to Mr. SHAW, who advised that the photograph was identical with an individual, believed by him to have been LEON NELSON, whom he had observed at the apartment of Mrs. NELSON on Sunday, May 22, 1955, and on several other occasions recently in the vicinity of the apartment house. Mr. SHAW stated, however, that at the time he was unable to say that subject was residing with Mrs. NELSON.

NY 100-63755

Employment

T-1, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on May 19, 23, 31 and June 7, 1955 that the subject was observed entering and/or leaving the building located at 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York. T-1 also advised that subject was observed on the above dates in the second floor office at that address.

It is to be noted that the 1955-1956 issue of the telephone directory of the New York Telephone Company for the Borough of Manhattan reflects a listing for the National and New York State Offices of the Communist Party at 268 7th Avenue.

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 27, 1955, that the subject was the Organizational Secretary of the New York District of the Communist Party, as of 1955.

T-3 and T-4, who were both in a position to furnish reliable information have advised on dates set forth subsequently under caption "COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERSHIP" that LEON NELSON was present at Communist Party Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, intermittently during the period September, 1954 through May, 1955.

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE
COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

Communist Party Membership

T-2, previously mentioned, advised on March 3, 1955, that one "NELLY" attended a meeting of the National Administrative Committee of the Communist Party on March 3, 1955, at Yugoslav Hall in New York City. T-2 described "NELLY" as the open Secretary of the New York District of the Communist Party and stated that this position was a combination of the positions of Organizational Secretary and Administrative Secretary.

NY 100-63755

T-2 described the National Administrative Committee as the National Committee of the Communist Party in disguise and as the highest body in the legal party.

It is to be noted that on January 17, 1955, T-2 advised that one "NELLIE", who had done organization work in New York, was being considered for inclusion on the National Administrative Committee of the Communist Party, USA.

On May 5, 1955, T-2 examined a photograph of the subject and positively identified subject as the person he had referred to as "NELLY".

On May 27, 1955, T-2 advised that during the National Communist Party meeting on organization held in New York City in April, 1955, a sub-committee was set up to prepare a resume of the discussions and proposals at the meeting. According to T-2, the sub-committee selected, as suggested by the National Administrative Committee of the Communist Party, included as one of its three members, the subject, who was described by T-2 as the Organizational Secretary of the New York District of the Communist Party.

It is to be noted that T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on January 28, 1955, that the subject's last known employment was by the Kings County Committee of the Communist Party, 26 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York, as of September, 1951.

T-3, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on March 8, 1955, that LEON NELSON participated in a discussion at Communist Party Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, on that date. According to T-3 NELSON stated that the 1955 May Day Committee would be known as "Workers and Peoples Committee for May Day, 1955", adding that the May Day demonstration this year would include more colorful floats and banners and a more festive atmosphere.

"May Day Parade"

"1. 'The May Day Parade in New York City is an annual mobilization of Communist strength.'

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"(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, p. 179.)2

T-3 advised on March 25, 1955 that LEON NELSON was at Communist Party Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, on that date. According to T-3, NELSON participated in a discussion regarding the problem of strengthening section organizations to better enable the Party to cement itself with mass movements and to prepare for the 1956 elections.

NELSON announced that a national meeting on party organization of district organizers and organizational secretaries was to be held in the 3rd or 4th week of April. He proposed that a meeting of county organizers be called in preparation for the New York State Executive Committee meeting which was to be held in early May, 1955, after the National meeting.

On April 1, 1955, T-3 advised that representatives of the Families Committee met with representatives of the New York State Communist Party at Communist Party Headquarters, New York, New York on that date to discuss campaigns in behalf of the families of the 13 New York Smith Act subjects. T-3 stated that LEON NELSON was one of four individuals representing the New York State Communist Party at this meeting. ✓

The thirteen Communist Party leaders were convicted of violation of the Smith Act of 1940 in United States District Court, Southern District of New York on January 21, 1953.

T-3 advised on April 28, 1955, that LEON NELSON was at New York State Communist Party Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, on that date and discussed the defense and raising of bail funds for the Puerto Rican Smith Act subjects.

NY 100-63755

T-3 advised on May 2, 1955, that LEON NELSON talked to PHIL BART at Communist Party Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, on that date regarding the problem of defending the Puerto Rican Smith Act subjects. According to T-3 NELSON told BART that this problem was not a New York responsibility but instead it was a national responsibility.

Regarding PHIL BART, it is noted that T-2, on January 17, 1955, advised that PHIL BART was a member of the National Administrative Committee of the Communist Party, USA. *N.Y.*

T-3 advised on April 29, 1955, that LEON NELSON had stated that the State Executive Meeting would be held on May 14, and 15 and that he, NELSON, would report on reorganization.

T-3 also advised that he had noted that LEON NELSON was present at Communist Party Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, on April 28 and May 2, and 9, 1955.

On May 5, 1955, T-3 stated that while at Communist Party Headquarters, New York, New York, on that date, LEON NELSON informed that a meeting of the county organizers was to be held at the Yugoslav-American Cooperative Home, Inc., New York City, on May 11, 1955, at 10:30 a.m.

The Yugoslav-American Cooperative Home, Inc., has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-4, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on the dates set forth below that LEON NELSON was then present at the headquarters of the New York State Communist Party, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York:

September 22, 29, 1954
October 4, 5, 1954
November 1, 2, 30, 1954

NY 100-63755

December 2, 3, 1954
January 17, 31, 1955
March 14, 1955

In addition T-4 advised that one "NELLIE", otherwise unidentified, was present at the headquarters of the New York State Communist Party on the dates set forth below:

October 26, 29, 1954
February 17, 18, 25, 1955
March 3, 4, 14, 15, 17, 1955

T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 17, 1955, that he had learned that LEON NELSON, of the New York State Communist Party, had relieved JACK MENDEL EPSTEIN of all responsibility regarding custody of Communist Party paraphernalia due to a recent heart attack suffered by EPSTEIN. *C.P. MEMBER - N.Y.*

As previously set forth, T-1 advised on May 19, 23, 31, and June 7, 1955 that subject was observed entering and/or leaving as well as on the premises of the second floor of building located at 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, on those dates.

Communist Party Fronts

The "Daily Worker", an East Coast Communist daily newspaper, issue of January 5, 1955, page 3, contains an article reflecting that LEON NELSON would teach a ten day evening course on Mondays at the Jefferson School of Social Science commencing January 17, 1955, on the subject "Wage Structures and the 'Runaway Shop' Movement.

The Jefferson School of Social Science (JSSS) has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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The 1955 Winter Catalogue of the JSSS lists LEON NELSON as an instructor.

Communist Party Associates

T-7, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on January 20, 1955, that LEON NELSON was known to GEORGE WATT.

T-8, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 5, 1954, that ~~GEORGE WATT~~ was National Trade Union Director of the Communist Party, N.Y. USA.

T-4 advised on October 15, 1954, that LEON NELSON was known to DOXEY WILKERSON at the JSSS.

According to the 1954 Fall Catalogue of the JSSS, Doxey Wilkerson was Director of Faculty and Curriculum at the JSSS.

T-4 advised on November 2, 1954, that LEON NELSON was known to HERB NALIBOW.

T-9, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on July 15, 1953 that ~~HERB NALIBOW~~, was the National Industrial Chairman of the Labor Youth League. N.Y. T-9

The Labor Youth League has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-10, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on November 14, 1954, that LEON NELSON was acquainted with EVELYN WIENER and had offered her a job at "his place." According to T-10, WIENER stated that she would try to get someone else for the job, indicating that she, WIENER, was starting to work in private industry on November 15, 1954.

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T-11, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 30, 1953 that ~~EVELYN WIENER~~ was the East Side Regional Director of the New York County Communist Party, as of 1950. *N.Y.*

T-4 advised on October 21, 1954, that LEON NELSON was known to MERCEDES ARROYO.

T-12, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in February, 1953, that ~~MERCEDES ARROYO~~ was a member of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party, USA. *N.Y.*

T-4 advised on January 20, 1955 that he had learned that LEON NELSON was using an automobile belonging to GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY but that it would not be possible for NELSON to transfer the automobile insurance from CHARNEY to NELSON as desired by NELSON inasmuch as NELSON could not show an acceptable occupation or place of business on his application.

GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY is one of the thirteen Communist Party leaders who was convicted on January 21, 1953 at United States District Court, Southern District of New York, for violation of the Smith Act of 1940.

Miscellaneous Communist Party Activity

T-13, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, made available information on April 1, 1955; indicating that the New York State Communist Party, in March, 1955, secured a six month subscription to the "New Amsterdam News" for LEON NELSON.

T-13 on May 2, 1955, made available information indicating that the New York State Communist Party had obtained a six month subscription to the "Pittsburgh Courier" for LEON NELSON in April, 1955.

NY 100-63755

Information furnished by T-13 was made available on a confidential basis and may be made public only in a usual proceeding following issuance of a subpoena. duces tecum.

T-14, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on January 11, 1955, that LEON NELSON had on that date extended farewells to PETTIS PERRY and BETTY GANNETT who were then to surrender to the United States District Court, Southern District of New York.

PETTIS PERRY and BETTY GANNETT were convicted of violation of the Smith Act of 1940 in United States District Court, Southern District of New York on January 21, 1953.

T-6, previously mentioned, advised on January 19, 1955, that IRVING GOFF was out of the Communist Party underground as of January 15, 1955. T-6 stated that GOFF was cleared through "NELLIE" of State Headquarters, who arranged for GOFF's "processing". T-6 explained "processing" by stating that GOFF was furnished references which would cover his employment for the period during which he was in the Communist Party underground.

T-15, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, furnished material on January 24, 1955, indicating that IRVING GOFF was in contact with one "NELLIE" on January 18, and 20, 1955.

According to material furnished by T-15, GOFF and "NELLIE" discussed organizational problems as well as the industrial concentration program and in this connection it was noted that "NELLIE" was arranging for five or six new people for Rochester. It was further indicated that "NELLIE" may make available to GOFF two automobiles owned by the New York State Communist Party. "NELLIE" was not further identified.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

Regarding IRVING GOFF, T-16, who was in a position to furnish information pertaining to IRVING GOFF, advised in 1955 that GOFF was then active in the penetration of the steel industry in the Buffalo, New York area for the Communist Party underground.

III. DESCRIPTION

Following is a description of the subject as obtained from T-1 through personal observation:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Sex | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | Approximately 35 |
| Height | 5'8" to 5'9" |
| Weight | 160 to 165 pounds |
| Hair | Black, receding |
| Complexion | Dark |
| Characteristics | Bears resemblance to film actor GEORGE RAFT. |

- P -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 11 -

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity and/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File Number Where Located |
|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| T-1 FISUR at 268 7th Ave., NY, NY | Subject present at CPHQ, NY and description | 5/19, 23, 31; 6/7/55 | SA WILLIAM M. DREW, JR. | Instant Report |
| T-2 CG 5824-S | Meeting of National Adm. Committee | 3/3/55 | JOHN E. KEATING (orally) | 100-63755- 331 |
| | Considered for Nat'l Adm. Committee | 1/17/55 | MICHAEL R. CARRANO (orally) | 100-63755- 335 |
| | Identified photo of subject | 5/5/55 | JOHN E. KEATING (orally) | 100-63755- 386 |
| | Organizational Sec'y, NYCP | 5/27/55 | JOHN E. KEATING | Chicago File A) 134-46- 1085a |
| | Used to document PHIL BART | | | |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - ContinuedINFORMANTS - Continued

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity and/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File Number Where Located |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| T-3 [REDACTED] | 3/8/55 | 3/8/55 | | |
| | 3/25/55 | 3/25/55 | | |
| | 4/1/55 | 4/1/55 | | |
| | 4/28/55 | 4/28/55 | | |
| | 4/29/55 | 4/29/55 | | |
| | 5/2/55 | 5/2/55 | | |
| | 5/5/55 | 5/5/55 | | |
| T-4 [REDACTED] | 9/22,29/54 | 9/22,29/54 | | |
| | 10/4,5,15,21,26, 29/54 | 10/4,5,15,21, 26,29/54 | | |
| | 11/1,2,30/54 | 11/1,2,30/54 | | |
| | 12/2,3/54 | 12/2,3/54 | | |
| | 1/17,20,31/55 | 1/17,20,31/55 | | |
| | 2/17,18,25/55 | 2/17,18,25/55 | | |
| | 3/3,4,14,15, 17/55 | 3/3,4,14,15,17/55 | | |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - Continued

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - ContinuedINFORMANTS - Continued

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity and/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File Number Where Located |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| T-5 [REDACTED] | Employed Kings County CP | 1/28/55 | SE JAMES R. COCHRAN | 100-63755- 313 |
| T-6 NY 694-S | Re Espstein | 5/17/55 | ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON | 100-63755- 391 |
| | Re GOFF | 1/19/55 | ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON | 100-63755- 305 |
| T-7 [REDACTED] | 1/20/55 | 1/20/55 | | |
| T-8 [REDACTED] | Used to document GEORGE WATT | | | |
| T-9 [REDACTED] | Used to document HERB NALIBOW | | | |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - Continued

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - ContinuedINFORMANTS - Continued

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity and/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File Number Where Located |
|--|--|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| T-10 [REDACTED] | 11/14/54 | 11/14/54 | | |
| T-11 [REDACTED] | Used to document EVELYN WIENER | | | |
| T-12 [REDACTED] | Used to document MERCEDES ARROYO | | | |
| T-13 JOHN PRICHEP MGR, Manufacturers Trust Co., 26th St. and 1th Ave., NYC | Subscription to "New Amsterdam News" | 4/1/55 | ALPHONSE J. SUTKUS | 100-63755- 346 |
| | Subscription to "Pittsburgh Courier" | 5/2/55 | ALPHONSE J. SUTKUS | 100-63755- 383 |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - Continued

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - ContinuedINFORMANTS - Continued

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity and/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File Number Where Located |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| T-14 [REDACTED] | 1/11/55 | 1/11/55 | | |
| T-15 [REDACTED] | 1/24/55 | 1/24/55 | | |
| T-16 [REDACTED] | Used to document IRVING GOFF | | | |

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

MSICELLANEOUS

LEON NELSON is a Key Figure, New York Office, and the Security Index card is current and accurate.

LEADSNEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will ascertain the present residence of the subject.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - Continued

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - Continued

REFERENCE:

Report of SA EDWARD J. FLANAGAN, JR., NYO,
12/21/54.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE - Continued

- 17 -

REPORT
of the

7-1



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

1- file 100-142323
Leon Nelson

To: SAC, Albany

July 6, 1955

80503

Re: CP, USA
DISTRICT #2
ORGANIZATION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO. 100-11056
FBI FILE NO. 100-3-69
LAB. NO. D-267039 BE

Examination requested by: Albany

Reference: Letter 6/21/55

Examination requested: Document

Specimens:

Q1 Handwritten letter beginning "Hello Nat:....Just a few,"
ending "....Regards to all. Nellie."

Result of examination:

It was concluded that the handwriting on Q1
was written by LEON NELSON, whose known handwriting specimens
are contained in Bufile 100-142323.

Q1 is returned herewith. Photographs are retained.

Enclosure (1) - REGISTERED MAIL

1 - Buffalo
1 - New York

HLD:VL
(7)

100-142323
NOT RECORDED
165 JUL 12 1955

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
JUL 6 - 1955
MAILED

5 JUL 14 1955

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-142323-1377

SAC, New York (100-63755)

August 29, 1955

Director, FBI (100-142323)

LEON NELSON
INTERNAL SECURITY - CRerep Special Agent William M. Drew, Jr., dated
June 30, 1955, at New York.

Although this subject is not classified as a missing Security Index subject Bufile reflects subject's residence is unknown. In event subject's apprehension was imminent it does not appear likely your limited knowledge of his whereabouts, his place of employment as Organizational Secretary, New York District of the Communist Party, 268 7th Avenue, New York City, would be of great value.

In view of subject's stature in the Communist movement in New York you should treat this subject as a Security Index subject whose whereabouts is unknown and conduct intensive investigation as required in Section 87C 6b(3) of the Manual of Instructions in an effort to locate him. You should submit periodic letters reflecting the results of your efforts to locate this subject as required by these instructions. The Bureau also desires that you continue to submit six-month reports reflecting subject's current activities as a key figure in your division.

In line with the above instructions set at once reflecting your recent efforts to locate this subject.

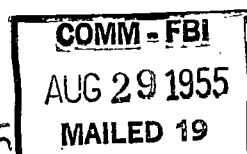
OTM:bew
(4)

RECORDED - 39

100-142323-99

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

52 AUG 31 1955



et

JSC

JLM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIR-TEL VIA AIR MAIL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI / ALBANY (100-14260) 8/29/55

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323)

LEON NELSON, WAS., SM-C.

On this date [redacted] advised SA's GEORGE P. SIMPSON and ROBERT S. REA that the subject had communicated with IGNATIUS ZEPPELLO, Chairman, Onondaga County Communist Party, on August 23, 1955, from 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York. NELSON, using the name NELLIE, stated that he was planning a "shindig" for Friday evening, September 9, 1955, at 8:00 P.M. and all day Saturday at an undetermined time, at Yugoslav Hall (possibly New York City). He stated he was writing to BOB and inviting him to attend and that ZEPPELLO and BOB could come together. BOB is believed to be ROBERT CLARK JOHNSTON, Security Index subject of the Albany Office.

Copies of this Air-Tel are being submitted to New York City and Buffalo for their information.

END

RSR:rvk

(8)

1 cc: New York (100-63755)(Info)(RM)
Buffalo (Info)(RM)
Albany 100-7575
Albany 100-5340

REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Belmont

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED - 73

EX-107

14 AUG 30 1955

Sent _____ M Per _____

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 9/13/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was.
IS-C

Card U.T.D.

9/28/55

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS ✓ Apt. 5-E, 1985 East 15th Street, Bklyn., NY

REGISTERED MAIL

WMD:CT

58 OCT 3 1955

NOT RECORDED
10 SEP 14 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 9/16/55

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

30504

Reurlet 8/29/55.

Mr. SYLVESTER SHAW, Superintendent, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised SA WILLIAM M. DREW, JR., on September 9, 1955, that the subject is now residing with his wife and two children in apartment 5-E, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

Current report reflecting above, will be submitted by NYO at an early date.

Subject, key figure, NYO, FD 122 being submitted to change SI card as above.

RECORDED - 22 100-142323-101

FBI - 16 SEP 19 1955

FBI

INTERMEDIATE SECURITY SECT

SEP 23 10 13 AM '55

RECEIVED

RM

WMD:rmv

63 SEP 23 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

57960

*Posted 10-28-55
Jah*

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 10/14/55 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/24; 9/9, 26-30; 10/5-7/55 | REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM M. DREW, JR. maf |
| TITLE D LEON NELSON, was. | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject residing Apartment 5E, 1985 E. 15th St., Brooklyn, NY, as of 9/9/55. Subject was employed at New York State CP Headquarters, 268 7th Ave., New York, NY, as early as July, 1954, and reported to have been present at that location, as of 9/8/55. Subject described by informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, as Organizational Secretary, New York District of the CP, as of May, 1955. Activities and associations of subject at offices of New York State CP and National Office, CPUSA, both 268 7th Avenue, New York, NY, during approximate period March to September, 1955, set forth.

- P -

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

Residence

Mr. SYLVESTER SHAW, superintendent, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised SA WILLIAM M. DREW, JR. on September 9, 1955, that the subject was residing at Apartment 5E, 1985 East 15th Street, as of that date. SHAW stated that to his knowledge the subject had been residing at that address for approximately six weeks prior to that date.

AGENCY D/R(0-36)
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 10-28-55
HOW FORW. HIS
BY 2/1/55

post

man [unclear] 3

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT ④ - Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3 - New York (100-63755) COPIES DESTROYED 52 OCT 31 1955 | | 100-142323-102 20 OCT 18 1955 | RECORDED - 87 INDEXED - 87 CONTROL X3 |

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-59255-2

NY 100-63755

Employment

T-1, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, made available documents on September 7 through 9 and 13, 1955, reflecting that LEON NELSON, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, was employed by the New York State Communist Party (CP), 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, as of August 2, 1954.

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in May, 1955, that the subject had been employed by the New York State CP during the period July through September, 1954.

T-3, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on May 3, 1955, that LEON NELSON, who was at the headquarters of the New York State CP on that date had stated that he had discussed the need for a District Organizer in New York as well as the possibility of bringing in an Executive Secretary for New York. According to T-3, NELSON stated that he did not consider himself adequate in this situation and preferred to resume his post as Organizational Secretary.

T-4, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on July 19, 1955, that he had heard PHIL BART remark on that date that the subject was to be Executive Secretary during the time that another individual, name not mentioned, was Organizational Secretary.

Regarding PHIL BART, it is noted that T-7, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in February, 1955, that the "current operating national CP, USA leadership" then included PHIL BART, who was Organizational Secretary and Treasurer, as well as in charge of the CP Reserve Fund.

It is to be noted that as set forth hereinafter T-3 and T-5, both of whom were in a position to furnish reliable information, have, at various times during the approximate period March 8 through September 8, 1955, furnished information reflecting the subject's presence at the headquarters of the New York State CP, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York.

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It is further noted that T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on May 27, 1955, described the subject as the Organizational Secretary of the New York District of the CP at that time.

AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

CP Activities and Associations

The CP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

As mentioned previously, T-6, on May 27, 1955, described the subject as Organizational Secretary of the New York District of the CP at that time.

T-3 advised on March 8, 1955, that the subject, while at New York State CP Headquarters, had remarked that he would be unable to obtain automobile insurance under his true name and that any insurance obtained otherwise would be worthless in the event of an accident inasmuch as the fact that he had falsified the record to obtain insurance would be discovered.

T-3 advised on April 18, 1955, that the subject on that date, while at New York State CP Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York, New York, stated that the reorganization report must contain the idea of how well the Party has carried out the line on Fascism, war and so forth and what some of the Party weaknesses were in carrying out this line.

According to T-3, NELSON continued by stating that the idea of the reorganization report was to get across the notion of winning the membership to the Party line. NELSON said that the report should concentrate on the fight for the line of the Party, obtaining membership confidence, industrial concentration, the fight for the Party as an organization and the fight for mass policy.

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T-4 advised on April 20, 1955, that PHIL BART, previously mentioned, discussed on that date a proposal to the effect that a working commission of seven people including the subject and other "top people" be set up in order to bring the Party in closer touch with most parts of the country.

T-3 advised on April 22, 1955, that the subject had stated that he was preparing a report at that time regarding the fight for the Party line, the estimate of the time in which we live, industrial concentration and the fight for Party membership, clubs, sections, literature and press.

T-3 advised on May 24, 1955, that the subject was at New York State CP Headquarters on that date, at which time he remarked that he had attended a meeting of Regional Organizers in the Bronx on the previous day.

T-3 advised on May 27, 1955, that the subject, during a meeting which took place at New York State CP Headquarters, discussed the leadership of the New York State organization and called attention to a definite weakening in the upstate area.

T-6 advised on June 17, 1955, that the subject was one of the four CP leaders scheduled to go to Detroit, Michigan, on about June 20, 1955. T-6 stated that these four leaders would constitute a national commission on organization appointed by the National Administrative Committee of the CP to go to Detroit as an inspection team to review all phases of the CP organization, factionalism and strategy in industry, due to the fact that the Detroit district was having difficulties, particularly in the matter of organization. T-6 advised that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT and PHIL BART were also members of this group.

T-6 advised on January 10, 1955, that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT was then one of the four members of the National Secretariat, CP, United States of America.

T-3 advised on June 2, 1955, that the subject, while at New York State CP Headquarters on that date, had stated that he would be going to Detroit on June 20 in connection with a union matter.

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T-8, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on June 22, 1955, that a special meeting was held on June 20, 1955, at 77 5th Avenue, New York City, to which "special Party people" had been called by the New York State CP to form a New York defense organization to serve on the "defense army" of the CP locally. T-8 noted that 15 long-time Communists were invited to this meeting but that only 11 were present including the subject. T-8 stated that during this meeting the subject pledged that the new organization would receive full cooperation from the CP on "all levels", and that he, the subject, had in mind a full-time organizer who would be able to start working as such within a few weeks.

T-4 advised on July 8, 1955, that the subject, while at CP National Headquarters on that date, discussed the new Sports Editor of the "Daily Worker".

The "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

T-3 advised on August 15, 1955, that the subject at New York State CP Headquarters discussed Party registration and the Press Drive which would take place around December 15, 1955.

T-3 advised on August 24, 1955, that the subject was Chairman of a meeting held on that date at New York State CP Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York City.

T-3 advised on August 31, 1955, that the subject at the conclusion of a Regional Organizers' meeting, which was held on that date at New York State CP Headquarters, stated that both the "national and state staff" had agreed to recommend GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY for the position of District Organizer. The subject added that as a result of several "returning comrades" there would be a strengthening of all county organizations.

GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY was convicted of conspiracy to violate the Smith Act of 1940 in the case entitled "United States versus Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, et al" in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on January 21, 1953, and following a United States Supreme Court denial of Petition of Certiorari, CHARNEY was remanded to the custody of the United

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States Marshal in New York City on January 11, 1955. On January 31, 1955, he was incarcerated in the Federal Penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Following the filing of a motion for a new trial on the basis that HARVEY M. MATUSOW, a Government witness, had lied during his Smith Act trial in 1952-1953, Federal Judge EDWARD J. DIMOCK granted a motion for a new trial and CHARNEY was released from the Federal Penitentiary on April 23, 1955, on \$5,000 bond.

T-4 advised on March 15, 1955, that MARTHA STONE on that date had told LEON NELSON, while he was at National CP Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York City, that he had a standing invitation to attend "N.A.C." meetings on every other Tuesday.

It is to be noted that T-6 advised on March 3, 1955, that the subject attended a meeting of the National Administrative Committee of the CP on that date. T-6 described the National Administrative Committee as the National Committee of the CP in disguise.

Regarding MARTHA STONE, it is noted that T-4 advised on March 11, 1955, that MARTHA STONE was then a member of the National Secretariat of the CP and the National Administrative Committee of the CP.

T-9, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on December 10, 1954, that MARTHA STONE was known to him as a member of the National Committee, CP, United States of America.

T-4 advised on March 23, 1955, that he had heard MARTHA STONE advise LEON NELSON on that date that the next National Administrative Committee meeting would take up trade union unity and that two weeks later they would take up Party organization.

T-4 advised on May 23, 1955, that the subject had conferred with MARTHA STONE at National Headquarters, CP, United States of America, 268 7th Avenue, New York City, on that date.

T-3 advised on March 24, 1955, that the subject had conferred with GEORGE MORRIS at New York State CP Headquarters on that date.

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T-10, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 29, 1955, that GEORGE MORRIS was then employed as the Labor Editor of "The Worker" and the "Daily Worker". N.Y.

"The Worker" is the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker", previously mentioned.

T-3 advised on April 22, 1955, that during a meeting at New York CP Headquarters on that date the subject suggested that the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee (ECLC) hold a testimonial affair for HARRY SACHER.

LOUIS BUDENZ, former Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker", who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on June 4, 1947, that he had known HARRY SACHER, Attorney, to be a member of the CP for many years. According to BUDENZ, SACHER told him that he came out of the ranks of the Young Communist League (YCL). N.Y.

The YCL has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Regarding the ECLC, it is noted that the "Daily Worker" issue of October 18, 1951, page one, columns four and five, in an article entitled "150 Noteables Form Emergency Civil Liberties Committee", it was reflected that the formation of the ECLC had occurred on October 17, 1951. It was stated that the purposes of the organization would be to help mobilize public opinion in support of the traditional American Constitutional guarantees of civil liberties and to render aid to the victims of abridgment of these liberties in politics, education and the professions. The founders, according to this article, included more than 50 members of the clergy and many educators and professionals.

Writing in the August, 1954, issue of "Political Affairs", ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, CP functionary convicted for violation of the Smith Act of 1940 on January 21, 1953, in United States District Court, Southern District of New York, referred to the ECLC as one of the "forces carrying on the defense of the Bill of Rights today."

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Regarding "Political Affairs", the following appears in a booklet entitled "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, May 14, 1955:

"POLITICAL AFFAIRS

"1. Cited as an 'official Communist Party monthly theoretical organ.' 'Political Affairs, formerly known as The Communist, "a magazine of the theory and practice of Marxism-Leninism published monthly by the Communist Party of the United States of America," now calls itself "a magazine devoted to the theory and practice of Marxism-Leninism." Its chief editor is Eugene Dennis, executive secretary of the party.'

"(Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, Report No. 1920, May 11, 1948, pp. 5 and 36; also cited in Report No. 209, April 1, 1947, p. 25.)

"2. New name for the monthly ideological publication of the Communist Party, the Communist.

"(California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, p. 252.)"

T-3 advised on April 29, 1955, that the subject, while at New York State CP Headquarters on that date, mentioned that GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY would return as District Organizer, New York State, on May 9, 1955.

GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY has been previously mentioned in this report.

T-3 advised on May 6, 1955, that the subject conferred with LILLIAN GATES and JOHN LAVIN at New York State CP Headquarters on that date.

The "Daily Worker" issue of February 6, 1950, page five, column one, identified LILLIAN GATES as the Legislative Secretary of the New York State CP. N.Y.

T-11, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available information reflecting that JOHN LAVIN was Chairman of the Westchester County CP in 1950. N.Y.

T-3 advised on May 16, 1955, that the subject conferred with IRVING GOFF, New York State CP Headquarters, on that date.

NY 100-63755

T-12, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, made available material on August 4, 1955, indicating that NELLIE, 1985 East 15th Street, NI 5-1682, was known to IRVING GOFF. *Brooklyn N.Y.*

The 1955-1956 telephone directory of the New York City Telephone Company for the Borough of Brooklyn reflects a listing for LEON NELSON at 1985 East 15th Street, telephone number Nightingale 5-1682.

T-13, who was in a position to furnish reliable information regarding IRVING GOFF, advised in 1955 that GOFF was then active in the penetration of the steel industry in the Buffalo, New York area for the Communist Party Underground.

T-3 advised on August 8, 1955, that BOB APPEL conferred with the subject at New York State CP Headquarters on that date. *N.Y.*

T-8 advised in 1951 that ROBERT APPEL had been replaced as Organizational Secretary of the Bronx County CP and was then employed in an unknown capacity with the New York County CP.

T-2 advised on August 7, 1953, that ROBERT APPEL was a paid employee of the New York County CP as of December, 1952.

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York, observed the subject in contact with CHARLES LOMAN on August 25, 1955, in Brooklyn, New York.

JOHN LAUTNER, a CP member for over twenty years, who at the time of his expulsion from the CP in January, 1950 was Chairman of the Review Commission, New York State CP, advised on October 3, 1950, that CHARLES LOMAN was reported to be the Organizational Secretary of the Kings County CP in January, 1950. *N.Y.*

T-14, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 29, 1955, that the subject had been in contact with IGNATIUS ZEPPETELLO, the Chairman of the Onondaga County CP, on August 23, 1955. T-14 stated that the subject *N.Y.*

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NY 100-63755

indicated his residence as 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

T-3 also advised that the subject was present at New York State CP Headquarters, 268 7th Avenue, New York City, on the dates indicated below:

April 4, 9, 13, 25, 28, 29; May 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 25, 31; June 9, 21; July 14, 1955.

T-5 advised that the subject was present at New York State CP Headquarters on the dates indicated below:

May 11, 19; July 11; August 9, 24, 25, 30; September 1, 8, 1955.

T-4 advised the subject was present at National Headquarters, CP, United States of America on July 6, 1955.

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NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGEINFORMANTS

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity And/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File No. Where Located |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|---|------------------------------|
| T-1 [redacted] | Employment | 9/7-9,13/55 | | |
| T-2 [redacted] | Employment | May, 1955 | Baltimore let captioned CP, USA-Organization, IS-C, dated 5/27/55 | 100-63755 -508 |

Used to document ROBERT APPEL

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
| T-3 [redacted] | Position in CP | 5/3/55 |
| | 3/8/55 | 3/8/55 |
| | 4/18/55 | 4/18/55 |
| | 4/22/55 | 4/22/55 |
| | 5/24/55 | 5/24/55 |
| | 5/27/55 | 5/27/55 |
| | 6/2/55 | 6/2/55 |
| | 8/15/55 | 8/15/55 |
| | 8/24/55 | 8/24/55 |
| | 8/31/55 | 8/31/55 |
| | 3/24/55 | 3/24/55 |
| | Re ECLC | 4/22/55 |
| | 4/29/55 | 4/29/55 |
| | 5/6/55 | 5/6/55 |
| | 5/16/55 | 5/16/55 |
| | 8/8/55 | 8/8/55 |
| | 4/4/55 | 4/4/55 |
| | 4/9/55 | 4/9/55 |
| | 4/13/55 | 4/13/55 |
| | 4/25/55 | 4/25/55 |
| | 4/28/55 | 4/28/55 |
| | 4/29/55 | 4/29/55 |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity And/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File No. Where Located |
|--------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| T-3 (continued) | 5/3-6/55 | 5/3-6/55 | | |
| | 5/9,10/55 | 5/9,10/55 | | |
| | 5/25,31/55 | 5/25,31/55 | | |
| | 6/9/55 | 6/9/55 | | |
| | 6/21/55 | 6/21/55 | | |
| | 7/14/55 | 7/14/55 | | |
| T-4 [redacted] | Position in CP | 7/19/55 | | |
| | 4/20/55 | 4/20/55 | | |
| | 7/8/55 | 7/8/55 | | |
| | 3/15/55 | 3/15/55 | | |
| | 3/11/55 | 3/11/55 | | |
| | 3/23/55 | 3/23/55 | | |
| | 5/23/55 | 5/23/55 | | |
| | 7/6/55 | 7/6/55 | | |
| T-5 [redacted] | 5/11/55 | 5/11/55 | | |
| | 5/19/55 | 5/19/55 | | |
| | 7/11/55 | 7/11/55 | | |
| | 8/9/55 | 8/9/55 | | |
| | 8/24/55 | 8/24/55 | | |
| | 8/25/55 | 8/25/55 | | |
| | 8/30/55 | 8/30/55 | | |
| | 9/1/55 | 9/1/55 | | |
| | 9/8/55 | 9/8/55 | | |
| T-6 CG 5824-S | Position in CP | 5/27/55 | SA JOHN E. KEATING (orally) | 100-63755 |
| | Re Detroit Problem | 6/17/55 | SA JOHN E. KEATING (orally) | 100-63755-410 |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity And/or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to Whom Furnished | File No. Where Located |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|--|------------------------------|
| T-6 (continued) | Used to document CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT | | | |
| | Re N.A.C. | 3/3/55 | SA JOHN E. KEATING (orally) | 100-63755-331 |
| T-7 NY 694-S* | Used to document PHIL BART | | | |
| T-8 [redacted] | Meeting on 6/21/55 | 6/22/55 | | |
| | Used to document ROBERT APPEL | | | |
| T-9 [redacted] | Used to document MARTHA STONE | | | |
| T-10 [redacted] | Used to document GEORGE MORRIS | | | |
| T-11 [redacted] | Used to document JOHN LAVIN | | | |
| T-12 [redacted] | 8/4/55 | 8/4/55 | | |
| T-13 [redacted] | Used to document IRVING GOFF | | | |
| T-14 [redacted] | Re NAT ZEPPETELLO | 8/29/55 | SA GEORGE P. SIMPSON and SA ROBERT S. REA | 100-63755-518 |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and "T" symbols were utilized in this report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

MISCELLANEOUS

[] advised SA BOYNTON C. LEONARD on 9/8/55, that the records of the New York State Department of Placement and Unemployment reflect that LEON NELSON, Social Security Number 130-07-1339, was employed by the New York State CP during the year 1954 and received remuneration in the amount of \$1,100. The Albany Office has advised that the above information is not to be disseminated outside of the Bureau by report or otherwise.

Special Agents, mentioned as observing the subject on 8/25/55, were JOSEPH J. MAC FARLANE and JOSEPH T. O'LEARY.

LEON NELSON is a key figure in the New York Office and the Security Index card is current and accurate.

LEADNEW YORKAt New York, New York

Will contact logical informants in an effort to determine whether subject is presently Executive or Organizational Secretary of the New York State CP.

REFERENCE Report of SA WILLIAM M. DREW, New York, dated 6/30/55.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| REPORT MADE AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 11/30/55 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/12/14; 9/20, 21; 11/9, 11, 15, 18/55 | REPORT MADE BY JEROME C. O'HANLON JMH |
| TITLE LEON NELSON | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject in June and September, 1955, visited IRVING GOFF at Buffalo, New York. On 6/12/55, subject observed by Agents of the FBI to meet with Underground functionary in Buffalo. On 9/20/55, subject attended section meeting of the CP in Buffalo, and on 9/21/55, attended Monroe County CP meeting in Rochester, New York.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITIES

T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 11, 1955, that JOSEPH NAHEM had recently turned over to LEON NELSON of New York City the sum of \$108.84 as Communist Party (CP) dues from the Western New York State area for the month of October, 1954.

The CP is an organization that has been cited by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that JOSEPH NAHEM during the period that the

AGENCY Kah
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 12-1-55
OW FORW. 115
OTM-241

C. E. [unclear] *10/11/55* *10/11/55*

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT 4 Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3 New York (100-63755) (RM) 2 Buffalo (100-14066) | | 100-142323- 100-63755- 100-14066- | RECORDED - 34 INDEXED - 34 811-73 |
| | | | |
| | | | |

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above funds were transferred, was participating in the CP Underground. In April, 1955, NAHEM assumed his true identity, and is currently the Educational Director of the Upstate County, New York State CP.

T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in June, 1955, that on June 12, 1955, LEON NELSON arrived in Buffalo, New York, and planned to remain in Buffalo for two days at the residence of IRVING GOFF. According to this informant, NELSON departed from Buffalo for New York City early on the morning of June 14, 1955.

T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that IRVING GOFF is currently the Organizer for the Upstate County, New York State CP. According to the informant, GOFF assumed his true identity in May, 1955, after spending approximately three years in the CP Underground.

On June 13, 1955, Agents of the FBI observed LEON NELSON and IRVING GOFF depart from the residence of EVELYN IRSAY, 34 Butler Avenue, and proceed in GOFF'S automobile to the downtown area of Buffalo. After parking the vehicle GOFF and NELSON then circulated through a number of department stores and then proceeded on foot to the intersection of Main and Eagle Streets, where at approximately 4:00 p.m., they met a CP Underground functionary. The three individuals then went to the Home Dairy, 321 Main Street. They remained at the Home Dairy for approximately two hours and upon leaving the Underground functionary separated from GOFF and NELSON, and NELSON and GOFF were later observed entering GOFF'S residence at 179 Butler Avenue, Buffalo.

T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in August, 1955, that EVELYN IRSAY is the Organizational Secretary for the Upstate County, New York State CP.

T-3 advised on September 20, 1955, that on that date subject arrived at the residence of IRVING GOFF and turned over to GOFF the sum of \$2,000.00 which he brought from Schenectady and Syracuse, New York, for the JOHN NOTO bail fund. According to the informant, subject planned to remain in Upstate New York for approximately two days and then return to New York City.

BU 100-14066

A Federal Grand Jury at Buffalo, New York returned a Secret Indictment on November 8, 1954, charging JOHN FRANCIS NOTO with violation of Section 2385, Title 18, United States Code, the Membership Section of the Smith Act of 1940.

On August 31, 1955, NOTO was arrested by Special Agents of the FBI in Buffalo. His bail was set at \$30,000.00 and \$60,000.00 property bond.

T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 29, 1955, that on September 20, 1955, subject in the company of IRVING GOFF, attended a CP section meeting of the Erie County CP in the Buffalo area. According to the informant, LEON NELSON was introduced as the New York State Executive Secretary of the CP. He delivered a talk on the importance of the Geneva Conference to the CP movement.

T-7, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 23, 1955, that on the evening of September 21, 1955, subject in the company of IRVING GOFF attended a Monroe County CP Committee meeting in Rochester, New York. According to the informant, LEON NELSON spoke on the question of the Geneva Conference, and the resulting decrease in east - west tensions. He said because of the changes for the better in the fight for civil liberties in general, it had created conditions for the Party to emerge from its isolation of these types of movements. He spoke on the need to develop a real struggle to return the Democratic Party to its former role of a Progressive - Liberal organization, and added that at present the Republican leadership of President EISENHOWER represented to the people a major step in the direction of peace and prosperity. NELSON further called for the bolstering of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. According to T-7, subject after the meeting went to the New York Central Railroad Terminal at Rochester, New York, and indicated that he was returning by train to New York City.

- RUC -

BU 100-14066

[redacted] on July 14, 1955, reported a conversation between IRVING and SOPHIE GOFF concerning factionalism in the CP. According to [redacted] IRVING GOFF told his wife SOPHIE that the information he was furnishing her was told to him by NELLIE (presumed to be LEON NELSON). The details of this information have previously been furnished to the New York Office.

[redacted]

Shortly after this conversation, LEON NELSON arrived at GOFF'S residence and they then discussed the arrests of various CP leaders, especially the arrest of a leader in New York City on September 19, 1955, who had just come into the open apparatus and visited CP Headquarters. This probably refers to MAX WEISS. BERNIE then mentioned that ED STRONG is also walking around now for about three weeks. This last sentence appears to mean that ED STRONG has assumed his true identity and was then engaged in the CP open apparatus.

Following this conversation LEON NELSON [redacted] [redacted] discussed the apprehension of JOHN NOTO and the difficulty in raising the \$30,000.00 for bail.

The CP Underground functionary described in the details of this report is LEOPOLD GOLDBERG.

The Agents who observed LEON NELSON and IRVING GOFF contact LEOPOLD GOLDBERG on June 13, 1955, at Buffalo, New York, were SAS BIRL WILSON, ALAN G. SENTINELLA, GORDON J. LACEY, FRANCIS D. CONNERS, GEORGE J. VOPAL and JOHN S. RASMOVICH.

INFORMANTS

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

BU 100-14066

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity And/or Description of Information | Date Rec'd. | Agent to whom Furnished | File No. where Located |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| T-1 [redacted] Anonymous | | | | |
| T-2 [redacted] | Documentation of JOSEPH NAHEM. | | | |
| T-3 [redacted] | 6/12/55 | | | |
| | 9/20/55 | | | |
| T-4 [redacted] Anonymous | | | | |
| T-5 [redacted] Anonymous | Documentation of EVELYN IRSAY. | | | |
| T-6 [redacted] | 9/20/55, CP Section Meeting | 9/29/55 | GEORGE A. LANKES, Written | [redacted] |
| T-7 [redacted] | 9/21/55, CP Meeting, Rochester, New York | 9/23/55 | MARK H. TUOHY, JR., Written | [redacted] |

REFERENCE

New York letter to Buffalo dated 10/6/55.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON
IS - C

DATE: 1/6/56

57959

Reference report of SA WILLIAM MC DREW, JR., dated 10/14/55.

On 12/8/55, CG 582-S* advised that NELSON was then Organizational Secretary of the New York District of the CP.

Since NELSON'S position in the CP has been determined, this case is being placed in a pending inactive status. Reports will be submitted every six months in accordance with instructions relating to Key Figure cases. The SI card has been reviewed and is correct.

- ② - Bureau (100-142323)(RM)
- 1 - NY 100-63755

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EX-122

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

57958

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|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Reporting Office NEW YORK | Office of Origin NEW YORK | Date 4/18/56 | Investigative Period 11/17/55; 12/8/55; 4/4,5,6/56 |
| TITLE OF CASE LEON NELSON, was | | Report made by ARTHUR S. BENNETT | Typed By: hd |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C <i>8-1 2</i> | |

Synopsis:

Subject resides Apartment 5E, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, NY. Source advised subject on payroll of New York State CP. Sources advised subject is Organizational Secretary of New York District CP; Secretary New York State CP Jewish Commission; attended meeting of North Eastern Sub-District, New York State CP, North of Troy, NY on 9/12/55; was present at a meeting at CP, USA Headquarters, NYC, conducted by CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, CP District Organizer, Illinois-Indiana CP District on 6/10/55; addressed a meeting at New York State CP Headquarters, NYC, on 9/16/55. Subject observed entering building where CP, USA and New York State CP Headquarters are located, on numerous occasions.

RAB

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|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Special Agent in Charge | Do not write in spaces below | |
| 100-142323-108 | 100-142323-108 | |
| APR 19 1956 | RECORDED - 40 | INDEXED - 40 |
| EX-134 | | |

- Bureau (100-142323)(RM)
- New York (100-63755)

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NY 100-63755

DETAILS:

At New York

I. BACKGROUND

a) Residence

HERBERT WENZEL, Superintendent, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised SA RICHARD A. DONOVAN on January 30, 1956, that the subject resides at that address. WENZEL was recontacted on February 17, 1956, by SA DONOVAN and advised that the subject and his wife, and their two children, still reside in Apartment 5E, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

b) Employment

T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on December 8, 1955, that the subject was at that time Organizational Secretary of the New York District of the Communist Party (CP).

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 17, 1955, that as of November, 1955, the subject was on the payroll of the New York State CP, receiving a salary of approximately \$50.00 per week.

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 19, 1955, that LEON NELSON, who was introduced as "NELLIE from the State," was present at a meeting on a farm north of Troy, New York on September 12, 1955. At this meeting, NELSON discussed the Geneva Conference and the part the United States and Russia played, and the effect of the conference on the working people.

NELSON stated that the Geneva Conference would not have succeeded unless the CP had pushed the people to get in back of the governments and keep swinging toward peaceful co-existence and the abolition of the H-Bomb. He stated that

NY 100-63755

the coalition of the Negroes, farmers and laboring classes was necessary to accomplish this and the "comrades" must get active in mass organizations such as the Democratic Party, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and to keep working for these accomplishments. He stated that the Geneva Conference would be a topic of discussion for the State Commission, the Sub-District Commission and the CP cells, and articles will appear in "Political Affairs" for the next several weeks. He stated that a final program will then be worked out by the Party on the Geneva Conference and publicized.

Informant advised that NORMAN WOHLBERG was present at the meeting and stated that this meeting was an "enlarged Sub-District Committee meeting," and that he, WOHLBERG, had been chairman of the North Eastern Sub-District and that this was the first meeting of its size in four or five years.

In regard to "Political Affairs", it is to be noted that it has been cited as an "official CP monthly theoretical organ," by the House Committee on Un-American Activities on May 11, 1948 and April 1, 1947.

T-3, advised on September 19, 1955, that NORMAN WOHLBERG had announced at a meeting held on September 12, 1955, that he had been chairman of the North Eastern Sub-District of the New York State Communist Party until the Summer of 1955.

T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on June 10, 1955, that LEON NELSON attended a meeting on that date at CP National Headquarters, and that the meeting was directed by CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, who stated that the meeting was an outgrowth of discussions held in the past year on disagreements in Negro work.

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT was sentenced to five years imprisonment and fined \$5,000 in the United States District Court, Chicago, Illinois, on February 15, 1955, for violation of the Smith Act, in that he was a member of the CP, knowing that the CP taught

NY 100-63755

and advocated the overthrow and destruction of the Government of the United States by force and violence.

T-1, advised on December 8, 1955, that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT was then District Organizer of the Illinois-Indiana District of the CP.

T-4, advised on September 16, 1955, that LEON NELSON, the Open Secretary of the New York State CP, addressed a meeting at CP National Headquarters, on that date, and that NELSON announced that he and MARTHA STONE had reached the following conclusions:

- 1) to try to eliminate the regions of the Party altogether, and to remove the one rung between the County and the lower bodies
- 2) to place political emphasis on section organization as a political body is responsible to give guidance and build the Party clubs
- 3) section organizations must have full cadre to give full attention to this job.

MARTHA STONE was convicted in the United States District Court in New Haven, Connecticut on March 29, 1956, for violation of the Smith Act of 1940.

T-4, advised on October 21, 1955, that LEON NELSON at New York State CP Headquarters, advised that there would be a conference concerning all organizations, sections, members of the staff and one or two others to be held on Wednesday, November 2, 1955, at the Jefferson School.

He also stated that on Monday, November 14, 1955, there would be a city wide functionaries meeting to be held at Yugoslav Hall.

The Jefferson School of Social Science has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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The Yugoslav-American Cooperative Home, Inc. has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on October 26, 1955, that a meeting of the New York State Board of the CP was held that date in a meeting room of the National Theatre Building, 111 East Houston Street, New York City.

Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject entering the National Theatre Building on October 26, 1955, at 10:12 a.m. and to leave at 12:29 p.m. He was observed the same date to re-enter the National Theatre Building at 1:15 p.m. and to leave at 5:20 p.m.

T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past made available on November 29, 1955, a letter dated November 9, 1955, and signed by the National Administration Committee, CP, United States of America. This letter was a notice that a National Conference would be held on December 3, 4, 5, 1955, at the Yugoslav Hall, 405 West 41st Street, New York City. The agenda as listed would be:

- 1) Significance of Geneva
- 2) Electional policy and task for 1956
- 3) Youth work

Special Agents of the FBI, observed the subject entering Yugoslav Hall, 405 West 41st Street, New York City, at 10:14 a.m. on December 3, 1955.

Special Agents of the FBI, observed LEON NELSON in attendance at a gathering that greeted GIL GREEN who surrendered at the United States Court House, Foley Square, New York City, approximately 12 noon on February 27, 1956.

The subject was also observed at the United States Court House, Foley Square, New York on March 5, 1956, to greet HENRY WINSTON, the Communist fugitive who surrendered that date to the United States Attorney.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

GIL GREEN is a member of the National Board of the CP United States of America and the Illinois State Chariman of the CP who was indicted on July 20, 1948, for violation of the Smith Act of 1940 and convicted in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on October 14, 1949. On October 21, 1949, he was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment and fined \$10,000.

HENRY WINSTON was convicted in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York on October 14, 1949 for violation of the Smith Act of 1940. On October 21, 1949, he was sentenced to five years imprisonment and fined \$10,000.

T-7, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 17, 1956, that he knows LEON NELSON to currently head the New York State CP Jewish Commission with the title of Secretary.

T-7, when recontacted on March 8, 1956, advised that LEON NELSON was still the Secretary of the New York State CP Jewish Commission.

The subject was observed by Special Agents of the FBI, to enter and leave 575 6th Avenue or 101 West 16th Street, New York City on numerous occasions between February 1, 1956 to the present.

It is to be noted that the address of 575 6th Avenue and 101 West 16th Street, New York City are entrances to the Jefferson School of Social Science, wherein CP United States of America Headquarters and the New York State CP Headquarters have been located since February 1, 1956.

The subject was observed by Special Agents of the FBI, either entering or leaving the address 268 7th Avenue, New York City, on numerous occasions from October 19, 1955, to February 1, 1956.

It is to be noted that the address 268 7th Avenue, New York City, was the entrance to the CP United States of America Headquarters and the New York State CP Headquarters until these headquarters were moved to the Jefferson School of Social Science building at 575 6th Avenue, on February 1, 1956.

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- 6 -

NY 100-63755
INFORMANTS

| <u>Identity of Source</u> | <u>Date of Activity or Description of Information</u> | <u>Date Received</u> | <u>Agent to whom furnished</u> | <u>File Number where located</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| T-1, CG 5824-S | Subject Organizational Secretary, NY District CP 12/8/55 | 12/8/55 | JOHN E. KEATING | CG 134-46 |
| Documentation of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT | | | | |
| T-2 [redacted] | Nov. 1955 and Oct. 1955 | 11/17/55 | | |
| T-3 [redacted] | 9/12/55 | 9/19/55 | ROBERT E. MARGISON | [redacted] |
| Documentation of NORMAN WOHLBERG | | | | |
| T-4 [redacted] | 6/10/55 9/16/55 11/2/55 and 11/14/55 | 6/10/55 9/16/55 10/21/55 | | |
| T-5 [redacted] | 10/26/55 | 10/26/55 | | |
| T-6 [redacted] | 12/3,4,5/55 | 11/29/55 | | |
| T-7, [redacted] | Secretary of NY State CP Jewish Commission | 2/17/56 3/8/56 | ARTHUR P. HEALY | 100-63755-816 |

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in this report only in instances where the identity of the source must be concealed.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CON'T)

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS (CON'T)

The following Special Agents of the FBI observed subject enter or leave CP Headquarters on dates indicated:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| October 19, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| October 24, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| October 25, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| October 27, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| October 28, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| October 31, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and HOWARD G. KINNALLY |
| November 1, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and WILLIAM J. KENNEDY |
| November 3, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and HOWARD G. KINNALLY |
| November 4, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and HOWARD G. KINNALLY |
| November 7, 1955 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and ROBERT R. GLENDON |
| November 8, 1955 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and MARVIN R. DORAN |
| November 14, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT M. POWELL |
| November 17, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and MICHAEL D. MC NAMARA |
| November 28, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and MICHAEL D. MC NAMARA |
| November 29, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| December 2, 1955 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| December 8, 1955 | MICHAEL D. MC NAMARA and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| December 13, 1955 | MICHAEL D. MC NAMARA and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| December 14, 1955 | MICHAEL D. MC NAMARA and WILLIAM J. HORNER |
| December 19, 1955 | MICHAEL D. MC NAMARA |
| January 10, 1956 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and EUGENE F. FITZPATRICK |
| January 14, 1956 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and MAURICE T. BOWMAN |
| January 27, 1956 | MARVIN R. DORAN and MAURICE T. BOWMAN |
| February 17, 1956 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and EDWARD J. CIBULAY |
| March 2, 1956 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and C. B. GARRISH |
| March 5, 1956 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and HOWARD G. KINNALLY |
| March 12, 1956 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and MARVIN R. DORAN |
| March 15, 1956 | MAURICE T. BOWMAN and MARVIN R. DORAN |
| March 28, 1956 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and MARVIN R. DORAN |
| March 30, 1956 | ROBERT H. BERTKE and THOMAS J. WALSH |

The Special Agents who observed the subject entering the National Theatre Building, 111 East Houston Street, New York City are as follows:

SA MAURICE T. BOWMAN SA THOMAS E. O'CONNOR
SA ROBERT H. BERTKE

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CON'T)

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

The Special Agents who observed the subject entering Yugoslav Hall on 12/3/55, were:

SA MAURICE T. BOWMAN SA ROBERT S. MUGAVIN

The Special Agents who observed subject at gathering to greet GIL GREEN on 2/27/56, are as follows:

SA DANIEL A. BRANT SA PAUL F. DAIR
SA JOHN F. LANGTRY SA THOMAS E. O'CONNOR
SA ROBERT E. RETZER

SA DONALD E. HARTNETT observed subject at the gathering to greet HENRY WINSTON on 3/5/56.

The subject's SI card has been reviewed and found to be correct.

The subject's activities as Organizational Secretary NY District CP brings him within the standards for retention on the SI.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow and report subject's activities.

REFERENCE Report of SA WILLIAM M. DREW, Jr., 10/14/55, New York.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 7/9/56

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-CRerep of SA ARTHUR S. BENNETT dated 4/18/56 at
NY.

Upon the submission of the referenced report, the subject, NELSON, was considered one of the CP officials in the NY area wherein extensive investigation should be conducted in an attempt to further ascertain intelligence information regarding the Party in the NY area.

As a result of this intensifying investigation, the report was placed in a pending status.

During this period, through surveillances and fixed plants, it was ascertained that NELSON, who is a regular employee and an official of the NY State CP, follows a set pattern in entering and leaving NY State CP Headquarters. Also it has been ascertained through the use of a highly confidential investigative technique, that LEON NELSON does not maintain any records or literature pertaining to the CP at his residence.

In view of this, as well as the extensive coverage of the subject and his place of employment, through highly confidential investigative techniques, it is not felt by the NYO that any further intensifying investigation is necessary on this subject, and, therefore, this case will be placed in a pending inactive status and a report submitted every six months as in the case of key figures, UACB.

2-Bureau (100-142323) (RM)
1-New York (100-63755)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Reporting Office NEW YORK | Office of Origin NEW YORK | Date 7/9/56 | Investigative Period 4/27; 6/22,23,27/56 |
| TITLE OF CASE LEON NELSON, was | | Report made by ARTHUR S. BENNETT | Typed By: jmc |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C | |

Synopsis:

Subject resides Apartment 5E, 198^{1/2} E. 15th St., B'klyn, NY. Source advised subject introduced at CP meeting as "State Organizational Chairman." Source advised subject was paid \$50 per week for services by NY State CP for weeks ending 1/6/56 to 3/23/56. Subject spoke at meeting of Bronx County CP functionaries on 2/13/56 and spoke at meeting of the Kings County CP Educational Directors on 4/5/56; spoke at meetings of Kings County CP Organizers on 3/29/56; attended a May Day Planning Conference on 4/9/56; observed at May Day Celebration at Union Square, NY on 4/30/56; observed either entering or leaving building on numerous occasions, where CP, USA, and NY State CP are located.

-P*-

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|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Approved <i>[Signature]</i> | Special Agent in Charge | Do not write in spaces below | |
| Copies made: 4-Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3-New York (100-63755) | | 100-142323-112 | RECORDED-38 |
| AGENCY <i>[Signature]</i> REQ. REC'D DATE FORW. <i>7-18-56</i> HOW FORW. <i>415-0-6</i> BY <i>[Signature]</i> | | 17 JUL 11 1956 | |

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68 JUL 19 1956

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955 O-344750

NY 100-63755

DETAILS:

Residence

Mrs. ALVIA CASIANO, wife of the superintendent of building at 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised on June 22, 1956, that LEON NELSON, his wife, and two children reside in Apartment 5E at that address.

Employment

T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 13, 1956, that at a State Communist Party (CP) functionaries meeting held at the Jefferson School of Social Science on April 7, 1956, LEON NELSON was introduced as the "State Organizational Chairman."

The Jefferson School of Social Science has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 15, 1956, that LEON NELSON, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, Social Security Number 130-07-1339, was paid the gross salary of \$50 per week by the New York State CP for the period of weeks ending January 6, 1956, to March 23, 1956.

Affiliation with the Communist Movement

T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 23, 1956, that a meeting of the Bronx County CP functionaries was held on February 13, 1956, at Hungarian Hall, Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York. Informant stated that LEON NELSON, the speaker, was introduced as "Secretary of the Jewish Commission of the New York State Committee of the CP."

Informant stated that NELSON gave a one hour talk on the "Arab-Israel Crisis." Before going into his

NY 100-63755

speech, NELSON urged everyone present to read "The highly important Marxist monthly, 'Jewish Life'". Informant continued that NELSON stated "Jewish Life" reflects the CP's viewpoint on Jewish questions in general and on the present burning issue of the Arab-Israel crisis. "'Jewish Life' will be of special interest to those comrades who work with the Jewish mass organizations."

Informant stated that LEON NELSON's one hour talk on the Arab-Israel crisis consisted of the adopted Communist's (national and international) line on this question. Informant stated that NELSON spoke of "American imperialism which is trying to establish military bases in the Middle East. DULLES is protecting the oil interests of American oil companies. DULLES is ready to sacrifice in exchange one and one-half million Jews of Israel, and also the forty million Arabs for the oil of the Middle East."

"BEN GURION is a flunky of American-English imperialism."

"The Israeli Government is following the dictates of the American Zionist demanding a pact with Washington, a pact aimed against the Soviet Union."

"The Soviet Union sees Israel as Israel is today, but the Soviet Union is seeking peace in the Middle East - this is the policy of the Soviet Union."

The informant stated that what LEON NELSON and the CP is worried about, as obtained from LEON NELSON's speech, is "The arming of Israel is an important issue as far as the masses are concerned - it is not the central issue - from one point of view it is the least important issue - the story must have an answer to it for the masses - Communists who work with Jewish masses lead in the demands of restricted arms for Israel - we are joining in demanding the sale of arms for Israel by the American Government. This demand must be supplemented by the following four points:

NY 100-63755

"1. Big Four or United Nations negotiations on the Middle East crisis.

2. Long range economic aid to Arabs and Jews.

3. Defensive arms for Israel, and to make every effort for disarmament.

4. Arab-Israeli negotiations on the refugee and other questions, no dismemberment of Israel."

T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 5, 1956, that LEON NELSON was the main speaker at the meeting of the Kings County CP Educational Directors, held on April 5, 1956, at 1212 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York.

During NELSON's speech he stated that although there have been some basic Party documents issued since 1950, there has not actually been a national convention since that time. NELSON stated that since 1950 a number of questions have been raised that go to the heart of the policy adopted at that time, and that, in fact, a number of policy changes have been made since that time without the benefit of a national convention. NELSON stated, however, that there is a discussion now of organizing a national convention during the remaining months of 1956. NELSON continued that a reappraisal and re-evaluation of the CP programs and policies that have been pursued in the past will be made. He stated that as a result of the 20th Congress of the USSR, a new CP line is being presented to the CPs throughout the world. He stated that the new CP line is changed so that the CPs of the world are on their own and that if policies pursued since the Russian Revolution of 1917 or since the organization of the Comintern were of a certain subordination of world Communist movements to the Soviet Union, then this has now come to an end. Informant stated that NELSON then proceeded to deliver a report with the following points:

NY 100-63755

1. The relationship of the socialist to the capitalistic world.
2. An estimate of the international situation.
3. Theoretical questions as a result of the 20th Congress of the CP in the USSR.
4. Questions concerning STALIN.

Informant stated that NELSON, in his talk, noted that the 20th Congress of the CP in the USSR had the following effect on the CP, USA:

1. A large section of membership were impressed with the advances and strength of the USSR.
2. Deep agitation on the STALIN issue.

NELSON pointed out that the 20th Congress of the CP in the USSR highlighted the following points:

1. The fact that Socialism is becoming a world system.
2. Historical significances of the five year plan in the USSR.
3. The high economic standards achieved in the USSR.
4. The existence of a belt of countries in the world which advocate a neutral policy in international policies.
5. The possibility of the peaceful transition to Socialism in the US.

T-4 advised on March 29, 1956, that LEON NELSON was introduced as the guest speaker from the State Committee of the CP at a Kings County CP Organizers meeting held on that date at 1212 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York.

NY 100-63755

Informant stated that NELSON spoke on the padlocking of the "Daily Worker: and its relation to the "Daily Worker" circulation as well as Party registration. NELSON pointed out in this speech that the Republican and Democratic organizations in the US have never paid taxes since they are political parties, and that the CP in the US has been in existence for many years, and until now the fact that it never paid any taxes has never been made an issue. He commented that although the seizure of the CP headquarters and the "Daily Worker" had presented items of propaganda value in favor of the CP, the seizure of the ~~financial operations~~ of the CP and the "Daily Worker" have presented very serious problems.

NELSON stated, according to the informant, that the CP registration has been in progress since approximately October 1, 1955, and will end in a few weeks during which time the CP leaders are attempting to meet with as many Party sections, both in industry and community, as possible to ascertain the percentage of registration.

NELSON stated that the CP has reached an 85per cent point on a city and state-wide basis, but that the situation was not satisfactory.

It is to be noted that the "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

LEON NELSON was observed at the 1956 May Day Celebration held at Union Square, New York City, on April 30, 1956, by an Agent of the FBI.

T-3 advised on April 16, 1956, that at a May Day Planning Conference called by the Provisional United Citizens Committee for May Day, 1956, held at Central Plaza Hall, New York City, on April 9, 1956, LEON NELSON was present for approximately one hour, "just observing."

T-3 advised on June 5, 1956, that the "Provisional

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

United Citizens Committee for May Day, 1956, was formed at the direction of the CP for the purpose of organizing and sponsoring the May Day Rally held at Union Square, New York City, on April 30, 1956.

LEON NELSON was observed by Special Agents of the FBI either entering or leaving the address 101 West 16th Street, and 575 Sixth Avenue, New York City, (the address of the Jefferson School of Social Science, which houses the New York State CP Headquarters and the CP, USA Headquarters) on the following dates:

April 9, 1956
April 16, 1956
April 27, 1956
April 30, 1956
May 9, 1956
May 11, 1956
May 14, 1956
May 15, 1956
May 17, 1956
May 18, 1956
May 21, 1956
May 23, 1956
May 24, 1956
May 25, 1956
June 12, 1956

T-5, who is in a position to furnish information regarding the subject's activities, was contacted on April 27, 1956, and could furnish no information regarding the activity of the subject.

-P*-

-7-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS

| <u>Identity Of Source</u> | <u>Date of Activity Or Description Of Information</u> | <u>Date Received</u> | <u>Agent to whom Furnished</u> | <u>File No. where Located</u> |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| T-1 [redacted] | Subject "State Organizational Chairman" 4/7/56 | 4/13/56 | ROBERT J. DOLAN and DAVID RYAN (oral) | [redacted] |
| T-2 [redacted] | Subject employed NY State CP Hdq. 1/6/56 to 3/23/56 | 5/15/56 | | |
| T-3 [redacted] | Speaker at Bronx County CP Functionaries meeting 2/13/56 | 2/23/56 | ARTHUR P. HEALY | [redacted] |
| | Subject Secretary of Jewish Commission NY State CP | " | " | " |
| | Subject present at May Day Planning Conference 4/9/56 | 4/16/56 | " | [redacted] |
| | Used to document Provisional United Citizens Committee for May Day, 1956. | | | |
| T-4 [redacted] | Speaker at Kings County CP Educational Directors meeting 4/5/56 | 4/5/56 | | |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS CONT'D

| <u>Identity Of Source</u> | <u>Date of Activity Or Description Of Information</u> | <u>Date Received</u> | <u>Agent to whom Furnished</u> | <u>File No. where Located</u> |
|---|--|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| T-4 (cont'd) | Speaker at Kings County CP Organizers meeting 3/29/56 | 3/29/56 | | |
| T-5 A highly confidential source who had access to subject's residence, 1985 E. 15th St., NYC | No activity | 4/27/56 | | |

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and the T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The following SAS of the FBI observed the subject entering or leaving 101 West 16th St. and 575 6th Ave. on the dates indicated:

| | |
|---------|---|
| 4/9/56 | ROBERT H. BERTKE JAMES F. MITCHELL JOHN R. HAWKEN ROBERT J. LAWSON |
| 4/16/56 | ROBERT H. BERTKE JOHN J. ROBERTS |
| 4/27/56 | ROBERT H. BERTKE FRANCIS J. MC LAUGHLIN, JR. |
| 4/30/56 | ROBERT H. BERTKE FRANCIS J. MC LAUGHLIN, JR. |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE CONT'D

5/9/56

ROBERT H. BERTKE
MAURICE T. BOWMAN

5/11/56

ROBERT H. BERTKE
CHARLES W. PENDERGAST

5/14/56

"

5/15/56

"

5/17/56

"

5/18/56

"

5/21/56

"

5/23/56

JOHN R. ROBERTS
MARVIN R. DORAN

5/24/56

ROBERT H. BERTKE
ROBERT S. MUGAVIN

5/25/56

ROBERT H. BERTKE
ROBERT S. MUGAVIN

6/12/56

ARTHUR S. BENNETT
ROBERT S. MUGAVIN

The subject's SI card has been reviewed and found to be correct.

The subject's activity as Organizational Secretary, New York District of the CP, brings him within the standards for retention of the SI.

In view of the subject's position, and the daily coverage regarding his activity, which furnished excellent intelligence information regarding the CP, in the NY area, no consideration is being given at this time for an interview with the subject.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

NY 100-63755

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow and report the subject's activities.

REFERENCE Report of SA ARTHUR S. BENNETT dated 4/18/56
at New York.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 7-18-56

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS - CCard U.T.D.
7-26-56
an

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Same Employment

New Address- 101 West 16th Street, N.Y.C.

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____ 100-142323-

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

REGISTERED MAIL

ASB:EXF

JUL 27 1956

NOT RECORDED

6 JUL 20 1956

SUBV. CONTROL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 1/29/57

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS - CCard U.I.D.
FEB 5 1957

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

~~Unknown~~ (~~SEI~~) Organizational Secretary NY State CP ~~X~~

(Write address)

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

REGISTERED MAIL

ASB:ECF

58 FEB 6 1957

104

100-142323-

NOT RECORDED

21 JAN 30 1957

SUBV. CONTROL

A.E. Leonard

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK | OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK | DATE 2/5/57 | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 12/5/56; 1/21, 22/57 |
| TITLE OF CASE LEON NELSON, was | | REPORT MADE BY ARTHUR S. BENNETT | TYPED BY MCS |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C | |

SYNOPSIS:

NELSON resides Apartment 5E, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, NY. Employment unknown. Subject left employ of NYS CP on 9/14/56; named as one of twelve officers of NYS CP; continues as Organizational Secretary, NYS CP; attended meetings of NYS CP Committee between September and November, 1956; suggested at National Committee meeting of CP as member of "Committee to Save Our Paper;" observed entering or leaving JSSS on numerous occasions.

- P -

DETAILS:

Residence

Mrs. ALVIA CASIANO, Wife of the Superintendent, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised on December 5, 1956, that NELSON and his wife reside in Apartment 5E of that address.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| APPROVED <i>JJK/2W</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW | |
| COPIES MADE: ④ Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3- New York (100-63755) | | 100-142323-114 9 FEB 6 1957 RECORDED - 54 | |

AGENCY *TRW*
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW *2-12-57*
HOW FORW *100-63755*
BY *TH-261*

FEB 8 4 10 PM '57

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBV. CONTROL

EX-125

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66 FEB 12

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955—O—362788

NY 100-63755

Employment

T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on July 9, 1956, that LEON NELSON, Social Security Number 130-07-1339, was listed on the New York State "Payroll Summary," Second quarter 1956, and had received a gross salary of \$850.00 for that period.

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 23, 1956, that LEON NELSON was listed on the New York State Communist Party (CP) payroll. as of August 3, 1956.

T-2 further advised on September 21, 1956, that LEON NELSON was listed on the New York State CP payroll, as of September 7, 1956. The payroll for September 21, 1956, contained a notation opposite NELSON's name "Left employ September 14, 1956."

T-2 advised on November 26, 1956, that LEON NELSON received pay from the New York State CP on September 7, 1956, and September 14, 1956. Informant also advised that during the period September 14, 1956, to November 23, 1956, LEON NELSON was dropped from the payroll.

AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

Communist Party Membership

T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 19, 1956, that at a meeting of the New York State CP Committee on November 16, and November 17, 1956, it was stated that there are twelve New York State officers. It was later developed that these officers make up the New York State CP Board. BILL NORMAN, in answer to a question from the floor, named LEON NELSON, among others, as some of the above-mentioned officers.

T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 17, 1956, that WILLIAM NORMAN has replaced NORMAN SCHRANK as Executive Secretary of the New York CP District.

NY 100-63755

T-4 advised on September 17, 1956, that LEON NELSON currently has a job outside of the CP, but continues as the Organizational Secretary of the New York CP District, working part time in this capacity.

Knowledge of Aims and Purposes of the Communist Party

T-4 advised on June 24, 1956, that at a meeting of the National Committee, CP, United States of America, held at the Jefferson School of Social Science (JSSS) on June 22, to June 24, 1956, LEON NELSON, Organizational Secretary of the New York CP District, gave a report on the status of party organization in the New York District. Informant stated that this report was given at the Third Session on June 24, 1956.

The Jefferson School of Social Science has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-3 advised on October 5, 1956, that at a meeting of the New York State CP Committee, held on September 25, 1956, in New York City, LEON NELSON called the meeting to order.

T-3 advised on October 23, 1956, that LEON NELSON attended both sessions of a meeting of the New York State CP Committee held at the JSSS in New York City on October 19, and October 20, 1956.

Informant Informant stated that NELSON was one of the speakers at the October 19th session and stated that the draft resolution is a beginning, but is not good enough. He said that the Party has been making progress since 1952, but that the draft resolution is a compromise with the National Organization. NELSON stated that he feels that Marxism - Leninism has let him down and he does not feel that the present Party is adequate. He felt that we must have a political party, but that Marxism - Leninism is not the answer. He stated that he does not like the foreign agent tag that the CP has. He continued by stating that he ho

NY 100-63755

he wants to be respectable and does not want to be called scum when people find out that he is a Communist.

T-4 advised on August 26, 1956, that at the session on the fourth day of a four day meeting of the National Committee of the CP, United States of America, held at CP Headquarters in the JSSS, New York City, LEON NELSON of the New York CP District was suggested as a member of a "Committee to Save Our Paper."

Evidence of Communist Party Sympathy

T-3 advised on September 13, 1956, that a CP Conference would be held at the JSSS on September 18, and September 19, 1956, of the entire New York State Committee of the CP, plus a representative from each city in New York State with an active CP organization.

On September 17, 1956, T-3 advised that this meeting was postponed until September 25, and September 26, 1956.

On September 25, 1956, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed LEON NELSON entering the JSSS.

T-3 advised on October 19, 1956, that the New York State CP Committee would meet at the JSSS on October 19, and October 20, 1956.

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed LEON NELSON entering the JSSS on October 20, 1956.

T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 26, 1956, that an enlarged membership and Section Organizers' meeting was held on that date at 1212 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York.

A Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed LEON NELSON entering 1212 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York, between 8:15 P.M. and 9:00 P.M., on November 26, 1956.

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Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed LEON NELSON either entering or leaving the JSSS, 575 Avenue of the Americas, New York City, on various days between August 2, 1956, and August 20, 1956. It is to be noted that the CP, United States of America, District Number Two Headquarters, is located on the sixth floor of the JSSS.

- P -

- 5 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to whom Furnished | File No. where Located |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
|-----------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|

T-1

Listed on NY
CP payroll 2nd ✓
Quarter 1956

T-2

8/3/56 ✓

9/7/56 ✓

9/7/56-9/14/56 ✓

9/7/56 to 11/23/56 ✓

T-3

Meeting NY State
CP Committee ✓
11/16-17/56

ROBERT E.
MARGISON

Meeting of NY
State CP
Committee ✓
9/25,26/56

"

"

Meeting of NY
State CP
Committee ✓
10/19-20/56

"

T-4

CG 5824-S*

Job outside CP
Organizational
Secretary of NY ✓
State CP

JOHN E.
KEATING

CG 134-46

Documentation of WILLIAM NORMAN ✓

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS CONT'D

| Identity of Source | Date of Activity or Description of Information | Date Received | Agent to whom Furnished | File No. where Located |
|--------------------|--|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| T-4 (Cont'd) | NELSON gives rpt. on status of organization ✓ in NY Dist. of CP | | JOHN E. KEATING | CG 134-46 |
| | Suggested member of "Committee to Save our Paper." ✓ | | " | " |

T-5



11/26/56 ✓

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The SAS of the FBI who observed LEON NELSON entering the JSSS on 9/25/56, were ROBERT S. MUGAVIN and JOSEPH T. QUIGLEY.

The SAS of the FBI who observed LEON NELSON entering the JSSS on 10/20/56, were ROBERT S. MUGAVIN and JOSEPH T. QUIGLEY.

The SA who observed LEON NELSON entering 1212 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, NY, on 11/26/56, was JOHN E. GALLAGHER, JR.

The SAS who observed LEON NELSON entering the JSSS on various days between 8/2/56 and 8/20/56, are identified opposite the date, as set out below:

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D)

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 8/2/56 | FRANCIS J. MC LAUGHLIN and DENNIS J. BARRY |
| 8/6/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and JAMES F. O'CONNELL |
| 8/7/56 and ROB | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| 8/8/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| 8/9/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| 8/10/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| 8/13/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| 8/14/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT H. BERTKE |
| 8/15/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT M. POWELL |
| 8/16/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT M. POWELL |
| 8/17/56 | CHARLES W. PENDERGAST and ROBERT M. POWELL |
| 8/20/56 | ROBERT H. BERTKE. |

The subject's SI card has been reviewed and will be correct upon the submission of FD 122 change, reflecting the subject's employment verifying pending.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D)

A suitable photograph of the subject is maintained on his SI card.

A review of this case reflects that the subject's activities as Organizational Director, NYS CP, brings him within the criteria for retention on the SI.

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

1. Will follow and report subject's activities.
2. Will attempt to locate subject's employment outside of the CP.

REFERENCE Report of SA ARTHUR S. BENNETT, 7/9/56, at NY.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 3/6/57

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was.
IS-CCard U.T.D.
MAR 13 1957

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

100-142323-

NOT RECORDED

23 MAR 7 1957

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York

REGISTERED MAIL

RR:MTR

67 MAR 15 1957 134

SUBV. CONTROL

A. E. Leonard

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 3/15/57

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was.
IS-CCard U.T.D.
MAR 22 1957

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

✓ M. Silverman

101 West 37th Street, New York, New York

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

REGISTERED MAIL

RR:MTR

60 MAR 25 1957

100-142323-
NOT RECORDED
23 MAR 18 1957
SUBV. CONTROL

A.E. Leonard

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*Posted K.Y.
N.Y. 4/11*

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK | OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK | DATE 3/27/57 | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/18, 25, 27, 28; 3/4-7, 12-15/57 |
| TITLE OF CASE LEON NELSON, was | | REPORT MADE BY RAYMOND RAMER | TYPED BY mld |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C | |

SYNOPSIS:

Subject resides 716 Ave. T, Brooklyn, NY, and is employed at M. Silverman, 101 W. 37th St., NYC. LEON NELSON on a commission to evaluate the work of the Party. Subject observed entering Chateau Gardens on February 9, 1957 (during CP National Convention). LEON NELSON attended NY State CP Convention.

q
RAB

- P* -

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

Employment

On March 13, 1957, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed the subject enter the business establishment of M. Silverman, 101 West 37th Street, New York City, at about 8:53 a.m.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| APPROVED <i>JH/EN</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW | |
| COPIES MADE: ④ - Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3 - New York (100-63755) | | 100-142323-115 MAR 29 1957 RECORDED - 26 SUBV. CONTROL E-115 | |
| 52 APR 2 1957 AGENCY REQ. REC'D DATE FORW. HOW FORW. BY | | 200 APR 2 1957 REC'D | |

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NY 100-63755

On March 14, 1957, a Special Agent of the FBI observed the subject working in the office of M. Silverman, 101 West 37th Street, New York City.

A Special Agent of the FBI placed a pretext telephone call to M. Silverman, 101 West 37th Street, New York City, on March 14, 1957. An unknown person advised that LEON NELSON had not as yet arrived.

Residence

On February 28, 1957, Mrs. ALVIA CASIANO, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised SA RAYMOND RAMER that the subject and his family no longer resided at that address. She said he had moved about a month previously.

T-1, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on February 28, 1957, that one LEON NELSON, 1985 East 15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, had moved to 716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York.

On March 13, 1957, a Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject leave 716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York, on his way to work.

AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP) MOVEMENT

Evidence of CP Membership

A. Positions Held

On January 23, 1957, T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, furnished some of the comments of a national CP functionary regarding the New York District CP. This functionary said that the existence of Sectarianism and Leftism among the rank and file members of the CP in New York City probably caused the New York leadership to quit when it saw it was defeated.

NY 100-63755

The functionary said he was speaking of persons on the extreme Right, including LEON NELSON.

On January 7, 1957, T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available a document dated December 4, 1956, addressed to one "NELLIE". This document read in part "The last State Board meeting set up a commission to evaluate the work of the Party with regard to party organization covering the period of 1945 to 1955. You were designated as chairman of this commission...It is intended that the work of this commission, with a report emerging from it, be concluded by not later than January 1st, and that possibly this report be submitted to the membership for discussion prior to our State Convention. It is now up to you to call this commission into session to begin its work." This was signed "BILL NORMAN".

T-3 also on January 7, 1957, furnished a document addressed to BILL. It read in part "At the last meeting of the State Board, a Commission to evaluate the work of the party with regard to party organization, covering the period 1945-1955, was set up. You were designated a member of this commission." It was signed "LEON NELSON, Chairman of the Commission."

T-2 advised on September 17, 1956, that WILLIAM NORMAN had replaced NORMAN SCHRANK as Executive Secretary of the New York State Communist Party (CP) District.

On December 3, 1956, T-3 made available a document maintained at New York State CP Headquarters captioned "Board Members". The name NELLIE appeared thereon.

B. Meetings Attended

Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject enter the Chateau Gardens, 105 East Houston Street, New York City, on February 9, 1957.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

T-2 advised on February 13, 1957, that the CP, USA held its 16th National Convention on February 9-12, 1957, at Chateau Gardens, 105 East Houston Street, New York City.

T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on January 22, 1957, that the New York State CP Convention would be held on January 25-27, 1957, at Chateau Gardens, 105 East Houston Street, New York City.

On January 25 and 26, 1957, a Special Agents of the FBI observed LEON NELSON at Chateau Gardens on those dates.

T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on January 28, 1957, that LEON NELSON had attended the New York State CP Convention some time during its sessions on January 25-27, 1957. T-5 could not state definitely what sessions NELSON had attended.

C. Miscellaneous

T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on January 27, 1957, that among the persons nominated as delegates to the National Convention of the CP at the New York State CP Convention on January 27, 1957, was LEON NELSON. T-6 said, however, that NELSON declined the nomination.

- P* -

- 4 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS

| <u>Identity of Source</u> | <u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u> | <u>Date Received</u> | <u>Agent to whom Furnished</u> | <u>File No. where Located</u> |
|--|--|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| T-1 DAN MC KILLEN, Supt. of Mails Office, Brooklyn, NY | 2/28/57 ✓ | | SA RAYMOND RAMER | 100-63755-1061 |
| T-2 CG 5824-S* | 1/23/57 ✓ | | SA JOHN E. KEATING | 100-63755-1046 |
| | Used to document BILL NORMAN ✓ | | | |
| | Used to document the CP, USA National Convention ✓ | | | |
| T-3 [redacted] | 12/4/56 ✓ 12/3/56 (NELLIE, Board Member) ✓ | | | |
| T-4 [redacted] | Used to document the meeting at Chateau Gardens on 1/25-27/57 ✓ | | | |
| T-5 [redacted] | 1/25-27/57 ✓ | | SA ROBERT E. MARGISON | 100-63755-1052 |
| T-6 [redacted] | 1/27/57 ✓ | | SA DAVID RYAN | 100-63755-1052 |

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The Special Agent who observed the subject at 716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, NY, on March 13, 1957, was SA RAYMOND RAMER.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D.)

The Special Agents who observed the subject at 101 W. 37th St., NYC, on March 13, 1957, were SAS FOREST T. THOMPSON, Jr., and FRANK E. CHOVANEC.

The Special Agent who observed the subject at work on March 14, 1957, was SA RAYMOND RAMER.

The Special Agents who observed the subject at Chateau Gardens on 2/9/57 were DENNIS J. BARRY, PAUL F. DAIR, and JOHN F. LANGTRY.

The Special Agents who observed the subject at Chateau Gardens on January 25, 26, 1957, was SARROBERT S. MUGAVIN.

The pretext used for the telephone call by SA RAMER on March 14, 1957, was that of asking to speak to the subject.

Two FD-122s have been submitted correcting the subject's SI card, so that the information presently thereon is true and correct. A suitable photograph of the subject is available.

This case has been revaluated under the current SI criteria and it still meets those criteria.

LEAD"

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow and report the subject's activities.

REFERENCE

Report of SA ARTHUR S. BENNETT, 2/5/57, New York.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D.)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323)
 ATT : ASSISTANT DIRECTOR A.H. BELMONT
 FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-63755)

DATE: JUN - 6 1957

SUBJECT: CP, USA - TOPLEV
 IS - C
 LEON NELSON, was
 IS - C

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Re New York letters dated 10/21/54, and 1/21/55,
 captioned as above.

Since background information of LEON NELSON was furnished to the Bureau in referenced letters the same is being omitted at this time. LEON NELSON has been a top CP functionary for many years. He was an active leader in the CP underground movement and after his return to open CP activity he assumed a leadership position in the New York State CP. Information has been received from informants indicating that LEON NELSON was a GATES supporter in the factionalist fight. NELSON is reported to be disgusted with the present leadership, and policy of the CP, USA.

Employment and Residence

LEON NELSON is reported to reside at ^{a. 716} 1716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York, with his wife and family and is regularly employed at M. Silverman Company, 101 West 37th Street, New York City.

Approach

Since NELSON is regularly employed he can be directly approached on the street en route to work or on his return from work, circumstances permitting. LEON NELSON, if cooperative, could be a valuable informant for this Bureau.

- 3 - Bureau (100-142323) (RM)
 (1 - 100-3-99)
 3 - New York (100-63755) (#19-2)
 (1 - 100-35203) (#12-11)

EWB:pak
 (6)

RECORDED - 74

100-142323-116
 JUN 10 1957
 FBI
 13
 1957

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

NY 100-63755

Bureau authority is requested to interview
LEON NELSON on the street away from his residence and
place of employment.

- 2 -

1 - Mr. Donohue

SAC, New York (100-63755)

June 12, 1957

Director, FBI (100-3-99)(100-142323)

RECORDED - 74

100-142323-116

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

TOPLEV

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

LEON NELSON

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet dated June 6, 1957.

Authority is granted to contact Nelson whenever feasible away from residence or place of employment in accordance with outstanding instructions under the Toplev Program.

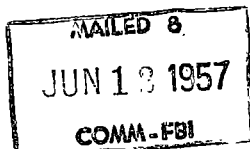
If this interview is not conducted within 30 days, furnish the reasons why and request additional authorization in accordance with SAC Letter No. 55-47.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Nelson has been a top CP functionary for many years and attended the recent national convention, CP, USA. He has a CP history dating back to 1934 when he joined the Young Communist League (YCL). He was a functionary of the YCL until 1942 when he joined the U. S. Army. Since discharge from the Army in 1945 he has held numerous positions in the CP until recently. There are indications that he has been a supporter of John Gates in the factionalist fight and Nelson is now reported to be disgusted with the present leadership of the party. Nelson is on the Security Index.

JDD:jas
(6)

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Nease _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____



52 JUN 21 1957

MAIL ROOM

FBI - TORRANCE
JUN 11 15 07 PM '57

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 6/18/57

FROM : SAC, New York (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was.
IS- CCard U.T.D.
JUN 27 1957 aa

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN OK X NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE ✓ _____ SEX _____DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH Manhattan, New York

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

100-142323-

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____

NOT RECORDED
RESPONSIBILITY
24 JUN 19 1957

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

REGISTERED MAIL

RR:MTR

F-324
60 JUN 28 1957

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. NICHOLS

DATE: 6-24-57

FROM : W. G. EAMES

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY USA--GENERAL
Bufile 100-3

Tolson _____
 Nichols _____
 Boardman _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 Nease _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

The report of SA Joseph V. Waters dated 5-14-57 at New York indicates that 452 individuals were in attendance at the 16th National Convention of the CP USA, 2-9 through 2-14-57, in N.Y.C. (100-3-6094). The attendance of individuals at this convention or their designation as a delegate thereto should be in the individual's main file and a copy of this memorandum will be filed there in lieu of indexing. If approved, the following format will be used. The page number preceding the name indicates the page of the above serial where information re each individual appears.

Name of person in attendance: (Page 99) 0 LEON NELSON

Attended as: (1) Delegate _____

(2) Alternate _____

(3) Guest or visitor XName of delegate or alternate (Page) _____
who is not known to have attended

LML:fk;mcg

100-142323-

NOT RECORDED

175 JUL 2 1957

53 JUL 12 1957

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3-6094

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI.
ATT.: ASST. DIR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: 6/27/57

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA-TOPLEV,
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

LEON NELSON, was;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

ReBulet 6/12/57.

On June 25, 1957, Special Agents CHESTER A. REILLY and EDWARD W. BUCKLEY conducted a fisur in the vicinity of subject's place of employment M. SILVERMAN COMPANY, 101 West 37th Street, New York, N.Y. At about 8:40 AM, the subject was directly approached on the street, a secure distance away from his employment. NELSON admitted his identity and was cordial to the agents. He was advised he was being contacted away from his residence and place of employment to afford him an opportunity to cooperate with this Bureau to discuss Communist Party activity if he so desired. NELSON stated, "I'm sorry gentlemen, I cannot discuss Communist Party activity with you and I cannot cooperate in any way but I can tell you that I am no longer in the CP -- I walked out of the Party several months ago and want nothing more to do with the Party."

The agents asked NELSON if he received good treatment from the Party for the personal sacrifices made by him in carrying on Party activity by engaging in the underground while his family suffered as a result of his absence. NELSON smiled and remarked "I wish I had it to do over again. It would be different."

NELSON stated that he spent many years in the CP movement and went into the movement of his own accord and also came to the decision to leave the party as a result of his own thinking. He stated that he wanted to have nothing more to do

③ - BUREAU (100-3-99) (RM)
(1 - 100-142323)

3 - NEW YORK (100-63755) (19-2)

(1 - 100-35203) (12-11) VW.21

EWB:DJG

(6)

57 JUL 12 1957

RECORDED - 36

17 JUL 1 1957

Letter to Director

June 27, 1957

Re: CP, USA-TOPLEV, ISC

LEON NELSON, was; ISC

with the Party and as far as he was concerned the Party "could fold up". NELSON stated, "I'm sorry gentlemen, even though I'm out of the Party I cannot speak or discuss anything with you men." NELSON remarked that his main concern at the present time is to keep his position and make a living to support his wife and family. NELSON remarked that he appreciated the agents contacting him on the street and if he should change his mind regarding holding a discussion with agents of this Bureau, he would notify this office. However, NELSON stated that such a possibility is very remote. The interview was terminated after approximately an eight minute conversation.

EVALUATION: NELSON was cordial and gentlemanly to the agents during the short interview and appeared sincere in his remarks that he wanted nothing more to do with the party. However, NELSON was firm in his refusal to engage in any conversation regarding Communist Party activity with the agents which may indicate that NELSON even though he is out of the party still holds some feeling of admiration for the party. No further contact is planned with NELSON at this time.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-142323)

DATE: 7/10/57

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-63755)

SUBJECT: LEON NELSON, was
IS-C

Card U.T.D.

Enclosed herewith are 4 copies of the report of SA RAYMOND RAMER dated and captioned as above.

NY 694-S* reported on 5/29/57 that LEON NELSON has "walked out" as a result of dissatisfaction with results of State CP elections. NY 694-S* interpreted "walked out" to mean to become inactive; not to quit the CP.

When interviewed, NELSON stated he had "walked out" of the Party several months ago and wanted nothing further to do with the Party.

Since NELSON is inactive and holds no office in the CP at this time, the NYO is removing him from the Key Figure List and the Bureau should do likewise.

Hereafter, communications in this case will be captioned "SM-C".

2-Bureau (100-142323)
1-Key Figure List (100-96900) (19-2)
1-New York (100-63755)

RR:atz
(4)

RECORDED - 31
EX-110

JUL 11 1957

SUBV. COM. ROE

A.E. DeG...

66 JUL 24 1957

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK | OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK | DATE 7/10/57 | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/22, 23, 27, 29, 31; 6/4, 6, 11, 14, 17-21, 24; 7/2/57 |
| TITLE OF CASE LEON NELSON, was | | REPORT MADE BY RAYMOND RAMER | TYPED BY atz |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C | |

SYNOPSIS:

LEON NELSON resides at 716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, NY, and is employed by M. SILVERMAN, 101 West 37th Street, NYC. T-2 advised LEON NELSON "walked out" of CP as result of NY State CP elections. Informants reported LEON NELSON attended NY State CP Convention, both sessions, and the National Convention of CP, USA. Subject refused to cooperate with Bureau agents when interviewed. Other informants had no information regarding subject.

*X.F. deleted
7/12*

*RAB
Part 5 IT*

- C -

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

Employment

ENCLOSURE

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW | |
| COPIES MADE: 4-Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3-New York (100-63755) | | 100-142323-118 | |
| | | RECORDED - 31 | |
| | | INDEXED - 31 | |
| | | SUBV. CONF. EX-110 | |

AGENCY *RAB*
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. *7-17-57*
TWR - cpr

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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507788R

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955-O-362768

COPIES DESTROYED *1-30-59*

NY 100-63755

On May 22, 1957, a Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, (FBI) observed the subject ~~had~~ worked at M. SILVERMAN, 101 West 37th Street, New York City.

On May 28, 1957, a Special Agent of the FBI observed LEON NELSON going to work at M. SILVERMAN, 101 West 37th Street, New York City.

On April 1, 1957, T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that LEON NELSON, born November 5, 1915, Manhattan, New York, father, HARRY, mother, YETTA PROECT, Social Security Number 130-07-1339, was employed by the Communist Party (CP) of New York State, 101 West 16th Street, New York City, during the quarter ending September, 1956.

Residence ~~NELSON~~

On June 24, 1956, a Special Agent of the FBI observed LEON NELSON leave 716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York, at 7:50 AM.

AFFILIATION WITH THE CP MOVEMENT

CP Membership

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 29, 1957, that according to a CP National Committee member, LEON NELSON has "walked out" as a result of dissatisfaction with results of New York State CP elections. T-2 interpreted "walked out" to mean to become inactive, not to quit the CP.

On May 20, 1957, Special Agents CHESTER A. REILLY and EDWARD W. BUCKLEY interviewed DONALD LESTER, who stated he had resigned from the CP some months ago and his resignation was accepted. LESTER advised the agents he had received information that LEON NELSON, a former New York State CP Functionary, had resigned from the CP some months ago.

NY 100-63755

T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 1, 1957, that the New York State CP Convention (Reconvened Session) was held on March 30 and 31, 1957, at 405 West 41st Street, New York City. T-3 stated LEON NELSON had attended the convention on one of the above dates, but T-3 was unable to say whether NELSON was a delegate, alternate delegate, or an observer.

On April 5, 1957, T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that the Reconvened Convention of the New York State CP was held on March 30 and 31, 1957, at 405 West 41st Street, New York City. T-4 attended the convention and reported that LEON NELSON was also present sometime during the convention.

T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 13, 1957, that the CP, USA, held its sessions of the 16th National Convention on February 9-12, 1957, at Chateau Gardens, 105 East Houston Street, New York City.

On February 9, 1957, Special Agents of the FBI observed LEON NELSON at the Chateau Gardens.

T-5 advised on March 7, 1957, that LEON NELSON was present at the 16th National Convention of the CP, USA. T-5 could not state whether the subject was a delegate or a visitor at the convention.

On March 6, 1957, T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that the New York State CP Convention was held on January 25-27, 1957, at Chateau Gardens, New York City. T-6 said that on January 27, 1957, LEON NELSON was nominated as a delegate-at-large to the National Convention of the CP, USA, but he declined the nomination.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-63755

On January 25, 1957, Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject at Chateau Gardens.

INTERVIEW

On June 25, 1957, SAS CHESTER A. REILLY and EDWARD W. BUCKLEY contacted LEON NELSON on his way to work. NELSON refused to cooperate but stated he was no longer in the CP having "walked out of the Party several months ago". He said he wanted "nothing more to do with the Party".

MISCELLANEOUS

Other informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past, advised in May and June, 1957, that they had no information regarding the subject's current CP activities.

- C -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-4-

NY 100-63755

INFORMANTS

| <u>IDENTITY OF SOURCE</u> | <u>DATE OF ACTIVITY OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION</u> | <u>DATE RECEIVED</u> | <u>AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED</u> | <u>FILE NO. WHERE LOCATED</u> |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| T-1 [REDACTED] | ✓ | | | 100-63755-1078 |
| T-2 NY 694-S* | ✓ | | | 100-63755-1099 |
| T-3 [REDACTED] | ✓ | | | 100-63755-1087 |
| T-4 [REDACTED] | ✓ | | | 100-63755-1089 |
| T-5 CG 5824-S* | Used to document National Convention, CP, USA | ✓ | SA JOHN E. KEATING | 100-63755-1083 |
| T-6 [REDACTED] | ✓ | | | [REDACTED] |

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

The following informants were contacted regarding the subject:

| <u>INFORMANT</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>SPECIAL AGENT</u> |
|------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| [REDACTED] | 5/28/57 | JOHN A. HAAG |
| | 5/23/57 | JOHN A. HAAG |
| | 6/14/57 | GUSTAV S. ABRANDT |
| | 6/4/57 | CHARLES W. CAVANAUGH |

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

NY 100-63755

ADMINISTRATIVE

The Special Agent who observed NELSON on 6/24/57 at his home, and 5/22/57 and 5/28/57 at 101 West 37th Street, NYC, was SA RAYMOND RAMER.

The subject was observed at Chateau Gardens by Special Agents ROBERT S. MUGAVIN and ROBERT H. BERTKE.

A photographic plant was maintained at Chateau Gardens by Special Agents of the FBI on 2/9-12/57. The plant over-looked the main lobby and the photographs taken show persons as they are coming through the doorway leading from the main ballroom and the various other meeting rooms.

On 2/9/57 the plant was operated by SAS HAROLD P. QUINN, DANIEL F. GUARD, JOHN B. MEADE, and PETER C. MITESSER.

A photograph of LEON NELSON was identified by

The subject's SI card has been reviewed and it is current and correct, and a photograph is available.

This case has been revaluated in the light of current SI criteria and it still meets those criteria.

REFERENCE

Report of SA RAYMOND RAMER, 3/27/57, at NY.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, *New York* (Your file *100-63755*) DATE: *9-26-57*
FROM : Director, FBI (Bufile & serial *100-142323-118*)

SUBJECT: *Leon Nelson Is-C* Office of Origin:

1. () The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to submit a report immediately. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau, Room # *1253*

Report submitted *My letter to Bureau 7/10/57 removed*

Report will be submitted *subject from Key Figure List and advised*

Reason for delay *Future character will be SM-C. Next report*
will be submitted 7/10/58.

2. () Advise Bureau re status of this case.
3. (✓) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
4. () Surep immediately.

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

SAC, New York

October 28, 1957

Director, FBI (100-142323)

LEON NELSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

In 1956 the Bureau instructed each office to furnish the names and current addresses of individuals known or suspected to have operated in the underground apparatus of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA), during the period 1951-1955. From this information the Bureau compiled a list of 336 individuals. On October 23, 1956, this list was furnished to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with the suggestion that IRS might desire to ascertain if these individuals properly executed income tax returns during the 1951-1955 period. This course was taken inasmuch as CP policy during the underground period suggested that members operating in the underground either file their income tax returns under false names or disregard their tax obligations entirely.

Under date of October 11, 1957, IRS furnished the Bureau a preliminary report on the results of the check made through the various Internal Revenue Districts. This check involved only the years 1953-1955 since the statute of limitations has run on the criminal violation of failure to file for the years prior to 1953. This check showed that of the 336 individuals no returns could be located for 135; 74 were found to have filed for all three years 1953-1955 and the remaining had filed for only one or two of the three years. IRS has advised that no further action is contemplated against the 74 individuals who properly filed their returns for all three years. The other individuals, however, will be interviewed and appropriate prosecutive action will be taken as warranted. If any additional pertinent information is received from IRS concerning the captioned subject, it will be furnished to you. This project is being confidentially handled between the Bureau and headquarters of IRS.

For your information, the preliminary check by IRS reflects the following data pertinent to the above-captioned individual:

Nelson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Nease _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Returns for 1954 and 1955 only located for subject.

HOB:raj(3)

RECORDED 58

MAIL ROOM ☒

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Reporting Office NEW YORK | Office of Origin NEW YORK | Date 7/10/58 | Investigative Period 6/5,6,9-13,17,20,23;7/1,2/58 |
| TITLE OF CASE LEON NELSON, was | | Report made by EARL F. SHANNON | Typed By: mfw |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C | |

Synopsis:

Subject resides at 716 Avenue T, Brooklyn, NY, and is employed by M. Silverman, 101 West 37th St., NY, NY. Attended meeting of "right wing" former and present CP members in 1958; described as member of Communist group in 1957; travelled to West Coast in interest of a new organization.

- C -

DETAILS:

I BACKGROUND

A. Residence

On June 24, 1958, by means of a suitable pretext interview with Mrs. GEORGE PETRELIS, 714 Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York, a Special Agent of the FBI ascertained the subject's residence at 716

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| Approved <i>[Signature]</i> | Special Agent in Charge | Do not write in spaces below | |
| Copies made: ④ - Bureau (100-142323) (RM) 3 - New York (100-63755) | | 100-142323-123 | |
| | | 13 JUL 14 1958 | REC-14 |
| | | | EX-136 |

AGENCY *[Signature]*
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. *7-28-58*
HOW FORW. *7-28-58*
BY *[Signature]*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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77 JUL 22 1958

NY 100-63755

Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York.

B. Employment

On June 24, 1958, by means of a suitable pretext interview with the switchboard operator at M. Silverman, Inc., 101 West 37th Street, New York, New York, a Special Agent of the FBI ascertained the subject's employment with that company.

II AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

A. Evidence of Communist Party
(CP) Sympathies

On March 10, 1958, T-1 made available the following information:

Several "right wing" present and former CP members were to meet at 7:30 P.M. at the residence of JOE STAROBIN, - *SI*, 51 Charles Street, New York, New York, on March 18, 1958.

On March 18, 1958, the subject was observed by Special Agents of the FBI entering 51 Charles Street, New York, New York, at 7:30 P.M. and departing that address at 11:30 P.M.

SI The Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives report entitled, "Investigation of Communist Propaganda in the United States, Part 5 (New York City area), pages 305-319, contains the testimony of JOSEPH STAROBIN, before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities on March 13, 1957, in New York City.

STAROBIN testified that he was a reporter for the "Daily Worker" from 1942 onwards; became one of the editors of the "Daily Worker," and was foreign editor until the beginning of 1954, and that he was a CP member from 1934 until late in 1953.

The "Daily Worker" was an East Coast Communist newspaper which discontinued publication on January 13, 1958.

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T-2, on October 28, 1957, made available the following information:

SI At a meeting held on that date at Parkway Plaza, 1110 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, New York, which was characterized by HARRY ONCHER, who was in attendance, as a meeting of the Kings County CP Committee, CHARLES LOMAN, who was present, identified the subject as a member of a Communist group, but not a CP member. SI

B. Miscellaneous

T-3 advised on March 5, 1958, that he learned on that date that the subject was one of a dissident group who was attempting to organize "a new paper," and has been attending "social gatherings" of that group. The informant further advised that he had learned that the subject had made a trip to the West Coast presumably in the interest of the group to set up a new organization.

Other informants, who are familiar with certain individuals and phases of CP activity in the Greater New York area, were shown a photograph of subject in June, 1958, but were unable to furnish any additional information concerning the subject.

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